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TOKYOPOP PRESENTS

A HIROMOTO-SIN-ICHI PRODUCTION

ZIZI · CAPTAIN SUV · BANCHO THE PIRATE · ROCKMAN · JANGO and GAD as the IMPERIAL QUEEN

Written and Directed by manga-ka HIROMOTO-SIN-ICHI

TOKYOPOP®

STONE™ HIROMOTO-SIN-ICHI

II

TOKYOPOP®

Manga
Action
USA $9.99

WITHIN A LOST GOLDEN CITY
LIES EARTH'S GREATEST TREASURE.
THE DESTINY OF MANKIND.

* A TOKYOPOP PRESENTATION IN VIBRANT MANGASCOPE
SCREENTONE : PANEL-RAMA : WITH CLOSED CAPTIONS

100% AUTHENTIC MANGA

ISBN 1595321527

UPC

OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

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STONe 2

HIROMOTO-SIN-ICHI

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Previously In STONe

The Sakai. The Great Sand Sea. It is nearly all that is left of the once vast oceans and lush lands of Earth. The cities of humanity's lost civilization now lay in ruins below its murky surface.

And yet, the human race endures...in small tribes scattered across the Sakai, desperately struggling for survival. Zizi, a young pink-haired girl, wild and untamed, is a member of one of these tribes. And although she has lived almost her entire life among its people, she has always felt like an outsider. There is something special about Zizi. She possesses the ability to see through the depths of the Sakai, and has recently discovered that as an infant she was brought to her island from the fabled Forgotten Continent.

Zizi is determined to find this lost land, and after a tumultuous chance encounter with the swashbuckling Captian Suv, she may have finally found her mode of transportation. She's survived man-eating Leviathans and a marauding mecha-suited killer, but now Zizi's incurred the wrath of her most sinister enemy to date. His name is Jango, of the Imperial Army, and in order to exact his vengeance he's willing to chase Zizi across the entire Sakai and, if necessary, to the very shores of the Forgotten Continent.

STONe Vol. 2
created by Hiromoto-Sin-ichi

Translation - Christine Schilling
English Adaptation - Aaron Sparrow
Copy Editor - Tim Beedle
Retouch and Lettering - Keiko Okabe
Production Artist - James Dashiell
Cover Design - Gary Shum

Editor - Bryce P. Coleman
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Pre-Press Manager - Antonio DePietro
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller and Mutsumi Miyazaki
Art Director - Matt Alford
Managing Editor - Jill Freshney
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
Publisher and C.E.O. - Stuart Levy

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TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

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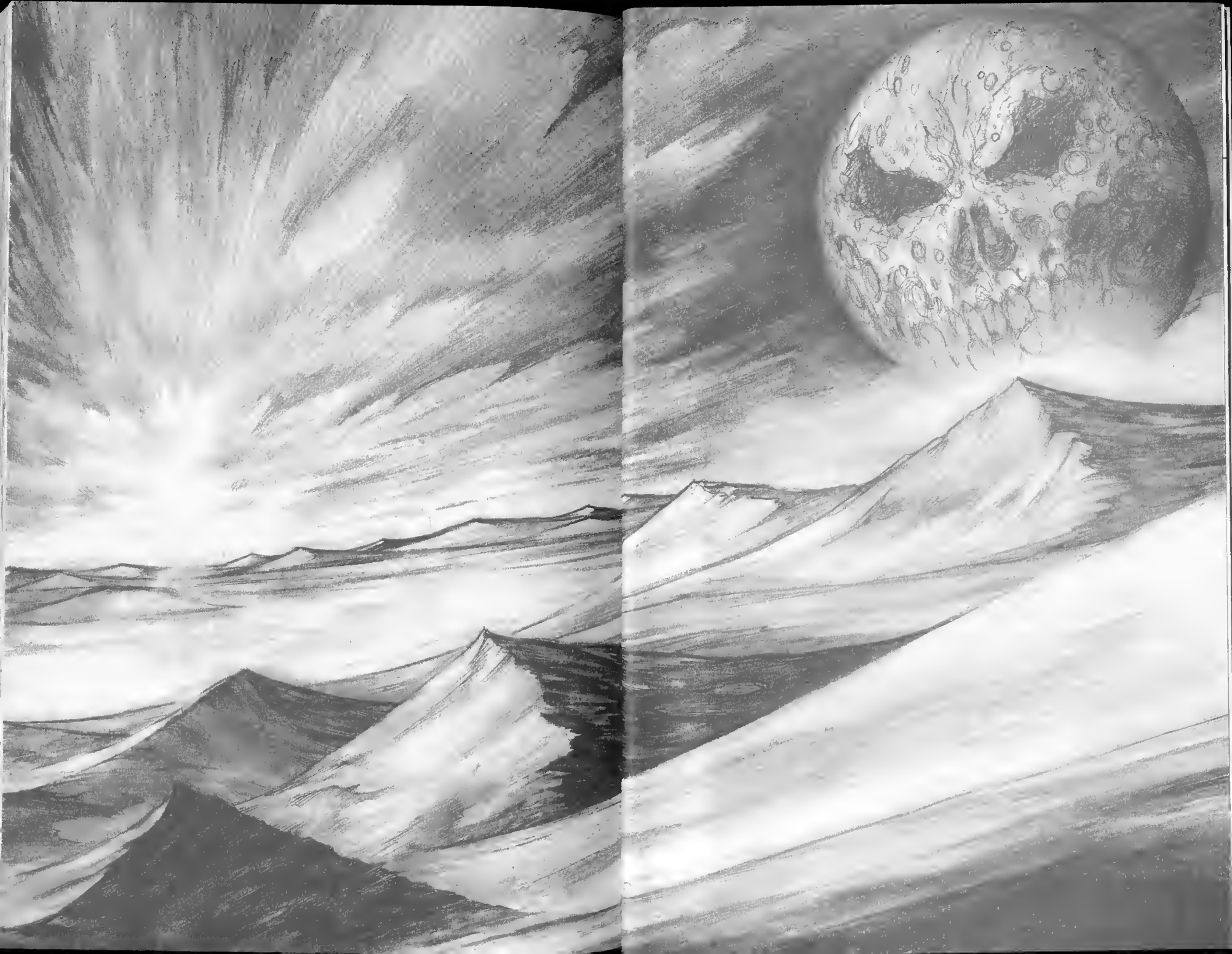

ZIZI! STAND DOWN!
AAH!
IT IS OBVIOUS, GIRL, THAT YOU DO NOT KNOW WHO YOU ARE DEALING WITH.
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?! ZIZI!
HOW DARE HE DO THAT TO THE WHALES!

STONe 2

HIROMOTO-SIN-ICHI
AFTERNOON KC

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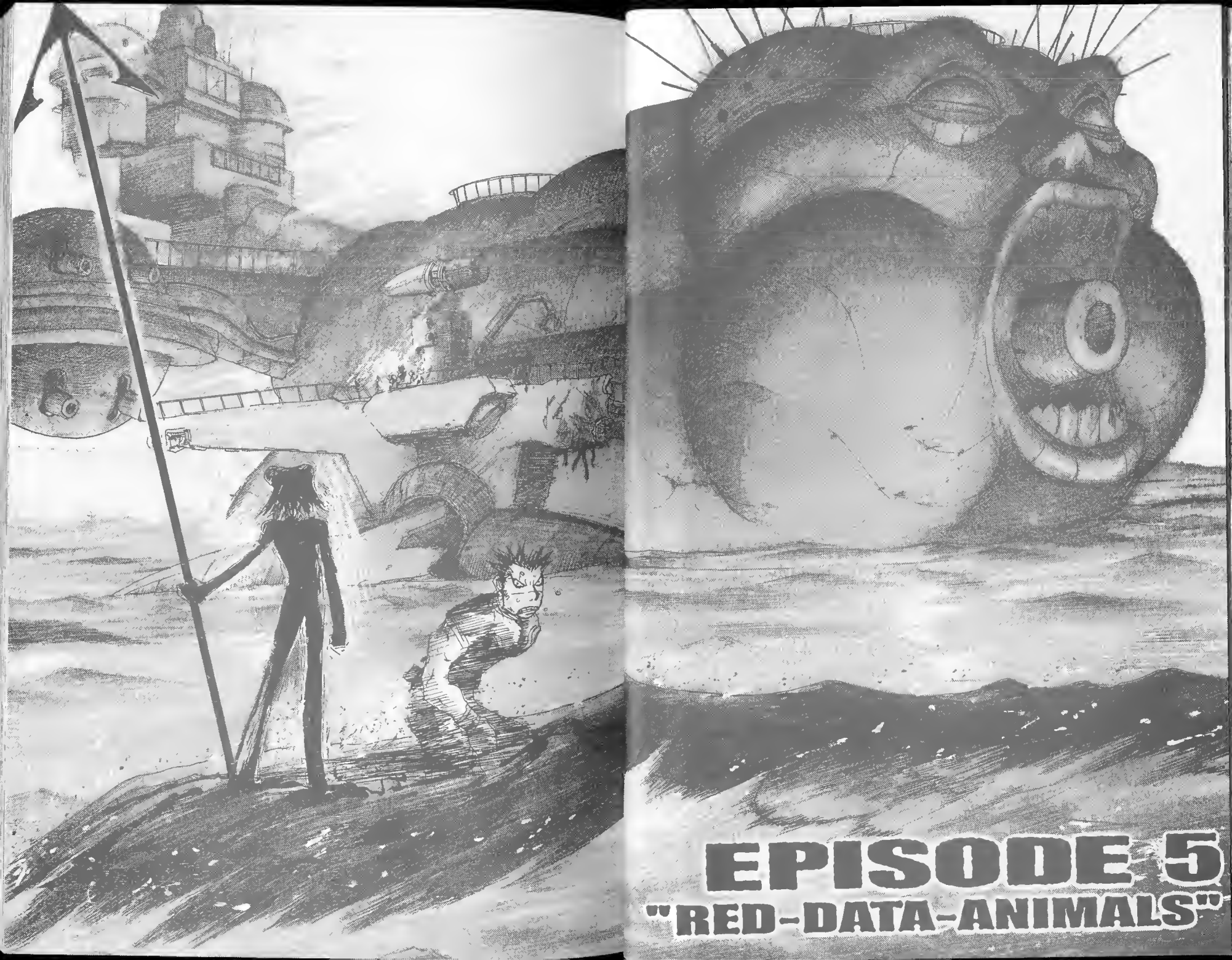
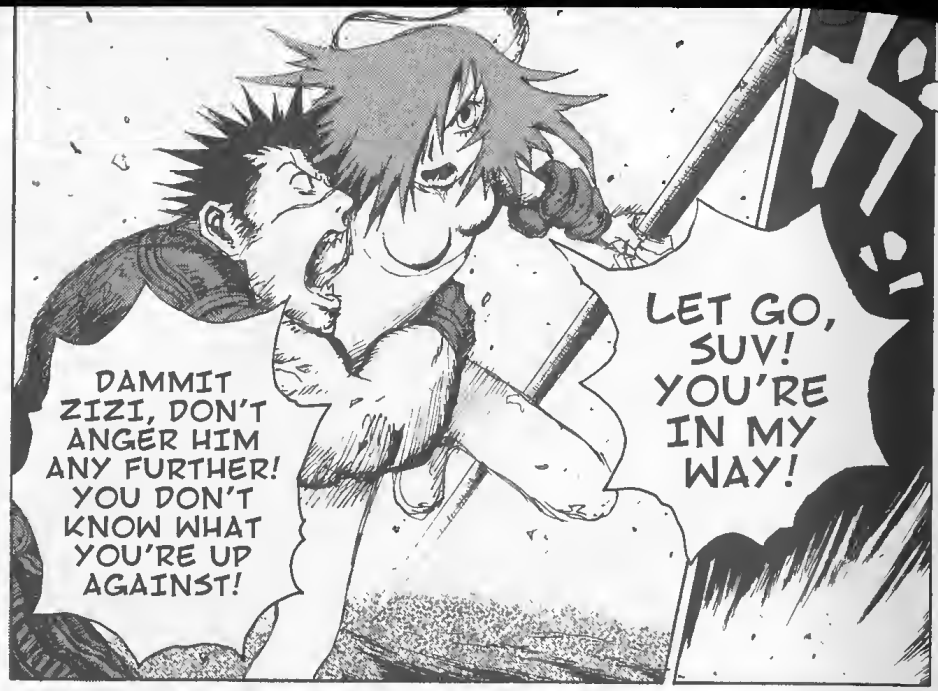
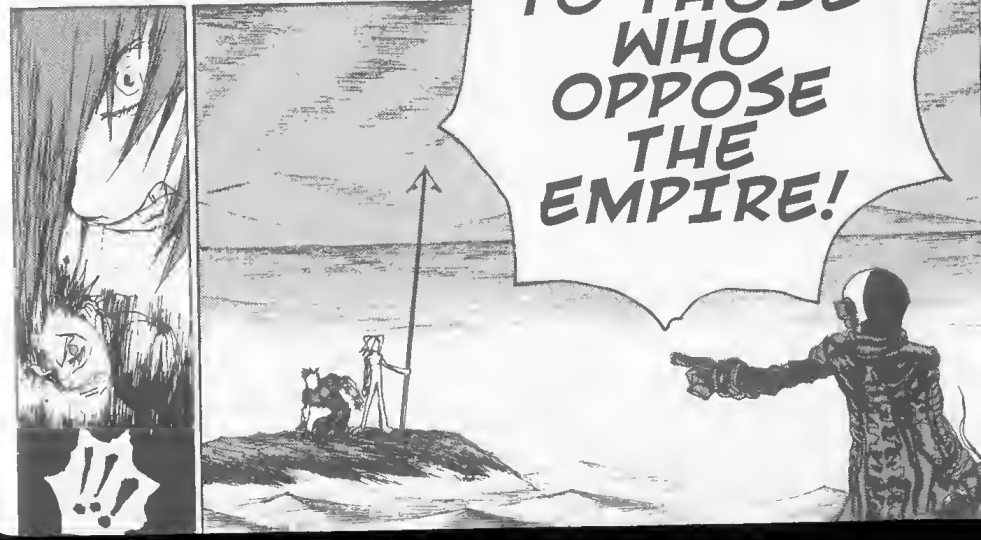


EPISODE 5
"RED-DATA-ANIMALS"


DAMMIT ZIZI, DON'T ANGER HIM ANY FURTHER! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP AGAINST!
LET GO, SUV! YOU'RE IN MY WAY!

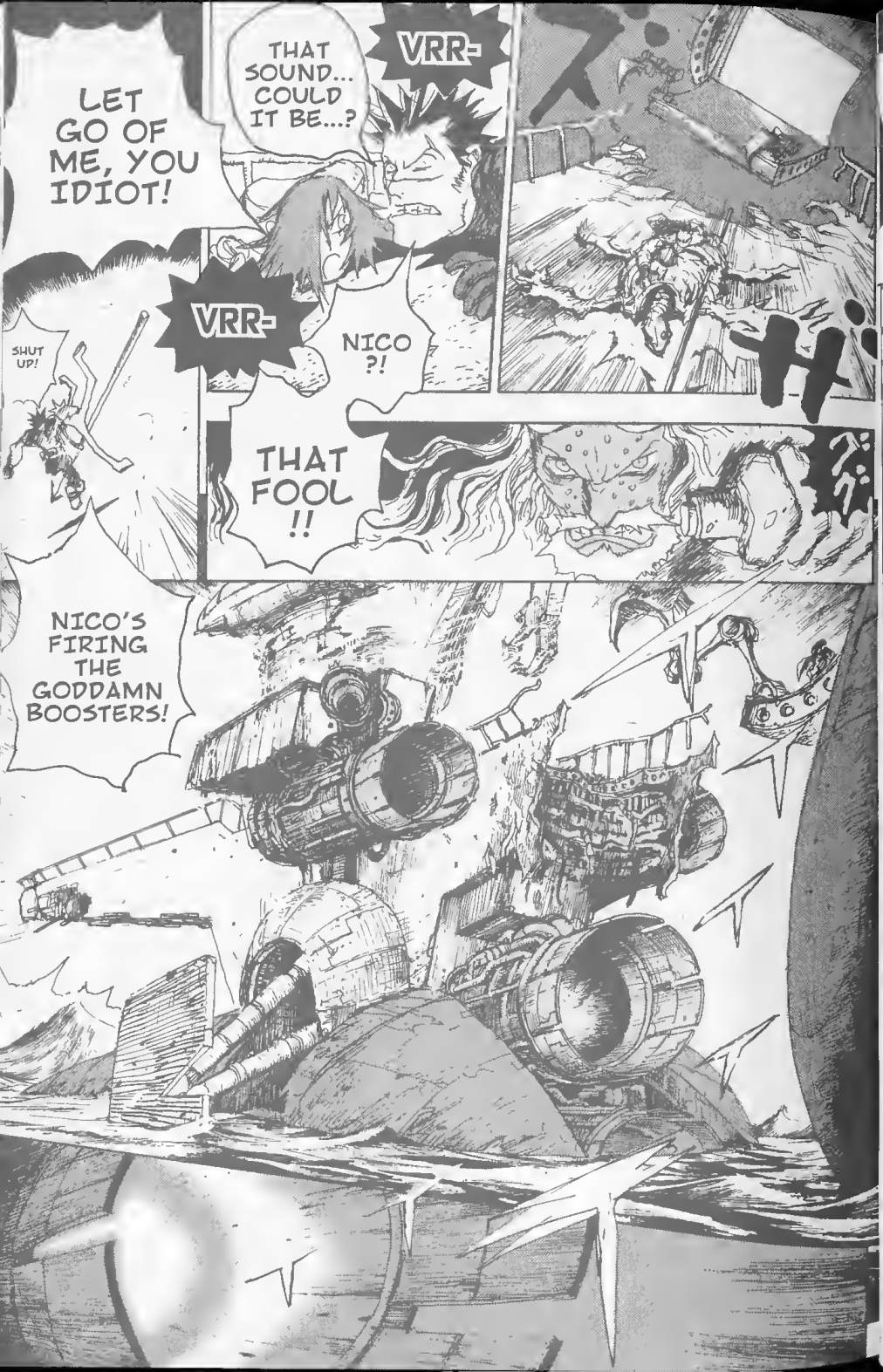
OPEN FIRE!

YOU SHALL LEARN A HARSH LESSON...
INSO-LENT WHELP !


!!
...IN WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE EMPIRE!

Kill her!
ZIZI!
IT--!
IT CAN'T BE! SHE'S JUMPING ALONG THE SAND WHALES' BACKS?!
FIRE, DAMN IT! FIRE!
KEEP FIRING!
NOT SO SMUG NOW, EH, GIRL?
GWAAH!!

MAN OVER-BOARD!
AAH!
AGH! HELP ME!
COM-MANDER JANGO... WHAT ON EARTH WAS THAT?
HOW THE HELL SHOULD I KNOW?!
DISEN-GAGE AND GET US OUT OF HERE!


LET GO OF ME, YOU IDIOT!
THAT SOUND... COULD IT BE...?
VRR-
VRR-
NICO ?!
SHUT UP!
THAT FOOL !!
NICO'S FIRING THE GODDAMN BOOSTERS!

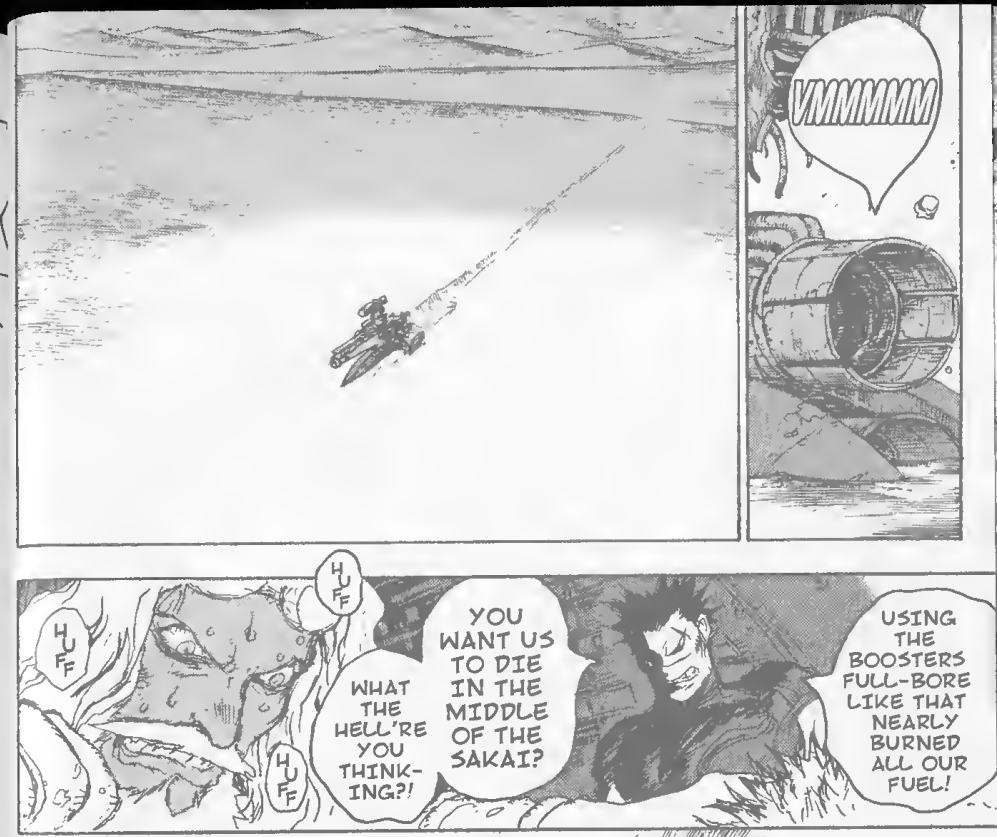
DAMMIT, GIRL! ARE YOU INSANE?
AAAAHHH!!!!
LET GO!!
SUV ?!

AAH!
HURRY-- PUT OUT THE FIRE!
HOW...
COM-MANDER! ARE YOU OKAY?!
HOW... DARE... YOU!
GWAAAHHH!!!

NICO, STOP THE SHIP!
THAT IS A DIRECT ORDER!
ARE YOU LISTENING, GODDAMMIT?!
STOP THE FREAKIN' SHIP!
NICO!!

AH?!
...MY BEAUTIFUL FACE!!
HOW DARE YOU... R-R-RUIN...

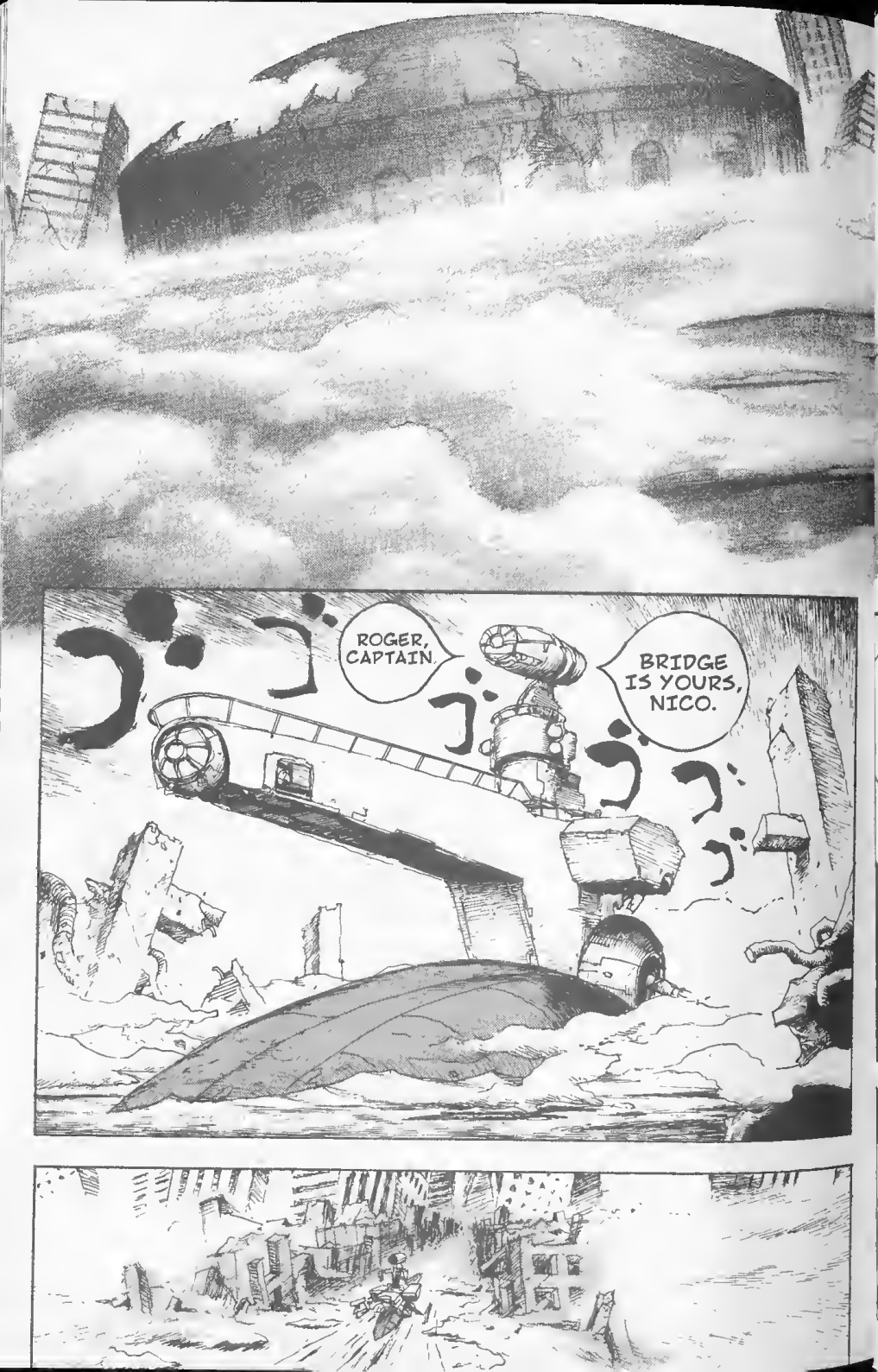
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THE PENALTY IS FOR KILLING AN OFFICER OF THE EMPIRE?
WHAT THE DEVIL WERE YOU PLAYIN' AT BACK THERE?!
AND YOU, ZIZI!
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO, SUV? KNEEL AT THEIR FEET LIKE YOU DID, YOU GUTLESS COWARD?
WHY YOU LITTLE BITC--

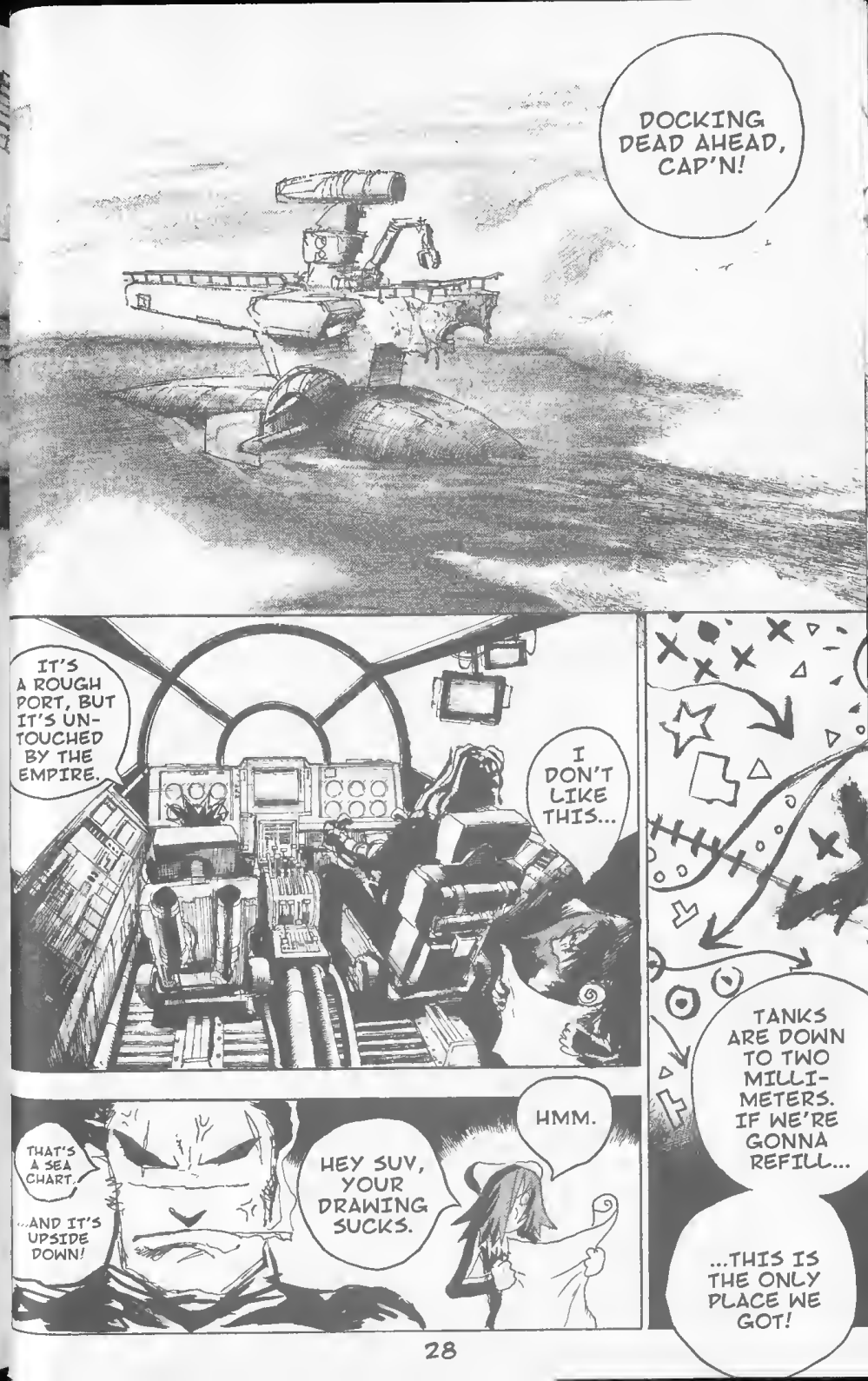

VMMMMM
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU THINK-ING?!
YOU WANT US TO DIE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SAKAI?
USING THE BOOSTERS FULL-BORE LIKE THAT NEARLY BURNED ALL OUR FUEL!

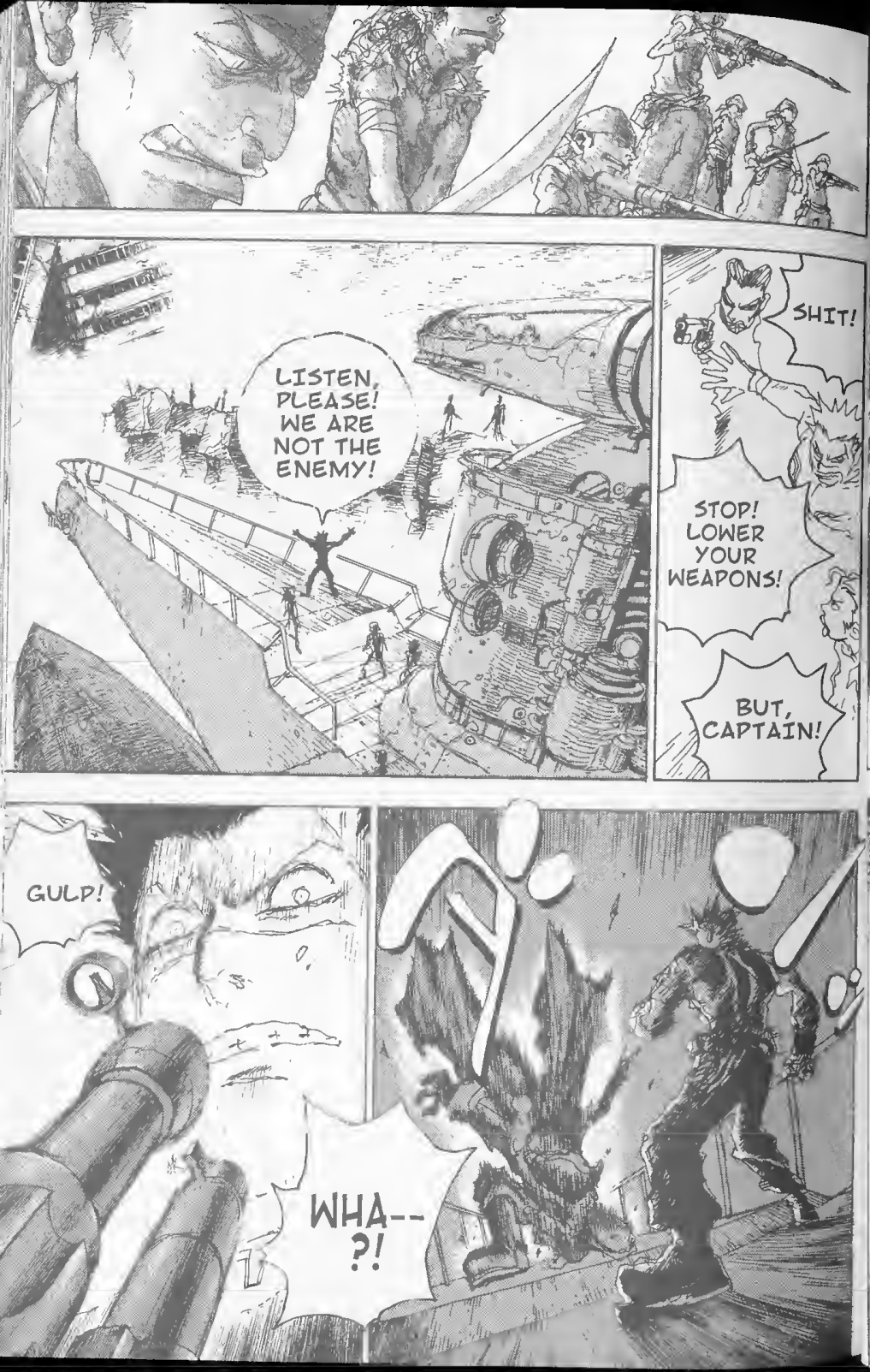
WELL, YOU CAN BET YER ASS WE JUST MADE THE EMPIRE'S SHIT LIST!
DAMMIT! I'M SURROUNDED BY IDIOTS!
YOU MORONS HAVE A FRIGGIN' DEATH WISH!
IT'S THAT KINDA THINKIN' THAT NEARLY DOOMED HUMANITY TO EXTINCTION IN THE FIRST PLACE!

NICO...
DEFYING AN OFFICER OF THE EMPIRE MEANS CERTAIN DEATH.
THEY'LL BE HUNTING US NOW.
SUV DID THE RIGHT THING.
HUH?
WHEN I MET THE CAPTAIN, HE OFFERED ME A FRESH START.
ZIZI, ALTHOUGH YOU WERE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR ACTIONS...
CAPTAIN SUV ONLY ACTED AS HE DID FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY.
I'VE SEEN FIRST-HAND THE BRUTALITY OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY. I USED TO BE ONE OF THEM.
...BRINGS YOU NOTHING BUT A WORLD O' HURT.
...MOST TIMES, STANDING UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT...

I'M GRATEFUL YOU STOPPED ZIZI FROM KILLING THAT IMPERIAL OFFICER...
NENE!
YOU!!
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU HAD IT COMING, SUV.
...MAYBE YOU WERE JUST THINKING ABOUT SAVING YOUR OWN SKIN, HMM?
...BUT...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE BETTER THAN THAT, SUV.

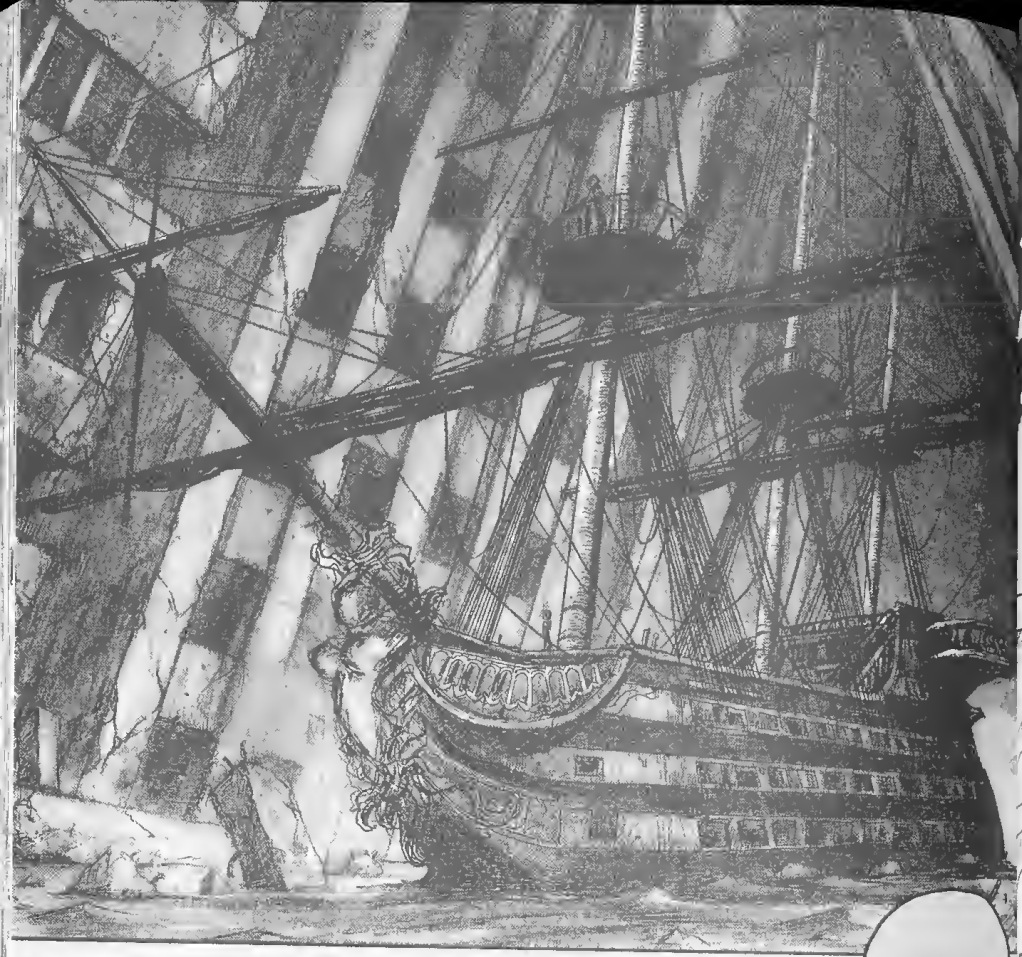

ROGER, CAPTAIN.
BRIDGE IS YOURS, NICO.

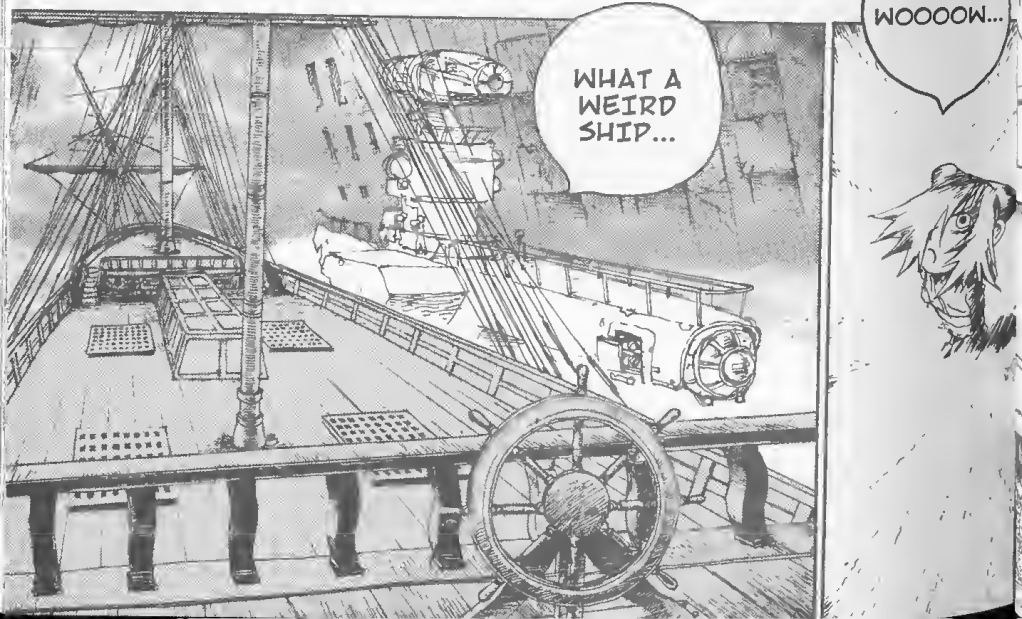

DOCKING DEAD AHEAD, CAP'N!
IT'S A ROUGH PORT, BUT IT'S UN-TOUCHED BY THE EMPIRE.
I DON'T LIKE THIS...
THAT'S A SEA CHART.
...AND IT'S UPSIDE DOWN!
HEY SUV, YOUR DRAWING SUCKS.
HMM.
TANKS ARE DOWN TO TWO MILLI-METERS. IF WE'RE GONNA REFILL...
...THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE WE GOT!


LISTEN, PLEASE! WE ARE NOT THE ENEMY!
SHIT!
STOP! LOWER YOUR WEAPONS!
BUT, CAPTAIN!
GULP!
WHA-- ?!

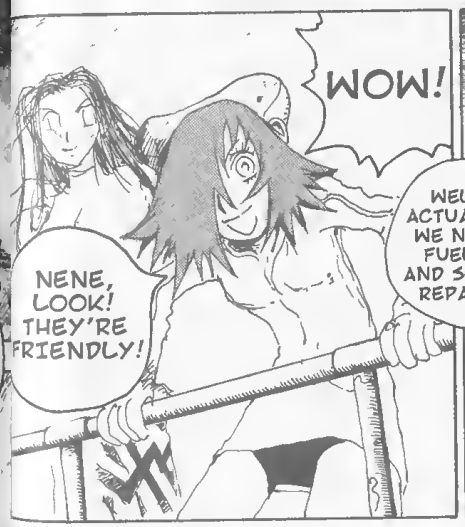
I GOTTA BAD FEELIN' ABOUT THIS...
ズズズズ

HEY, BANCHO. LONG TIME.
YE'VE GOT SOME NERVE COMIN' HERE, SUV! I STILL OWE YA FER WHAT YA DID TO MY EYE!
LET'S NOT BE HASTY HERE. I'M NOT LOOKING FOR TROUBLE.
WHOA!



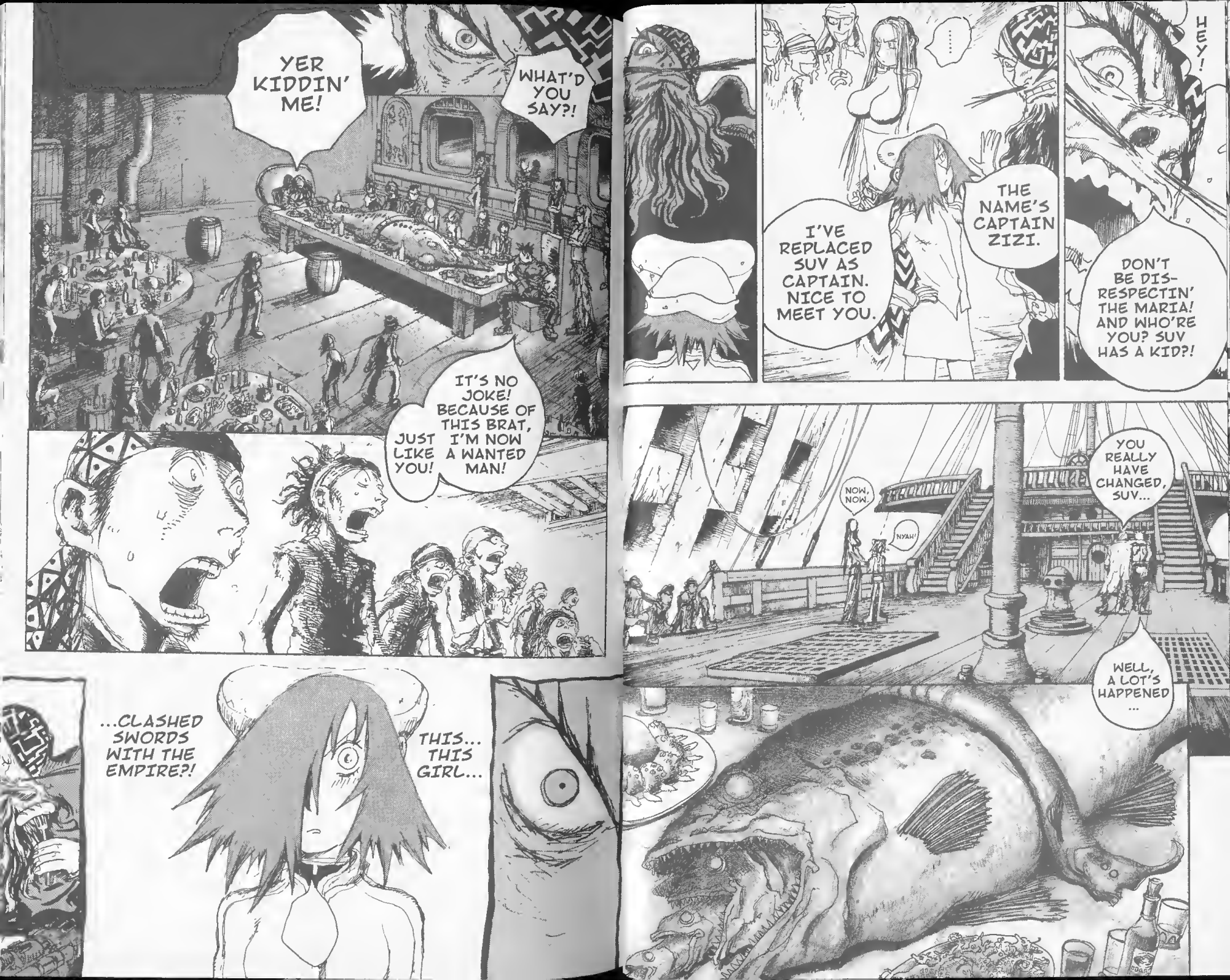

WHAT A WEIRD SHIP...
WOOOOW...

FUNNY'S IN THE EYE O' THE BEHOLDER, OL' FRIEND, NO PUN INTENDED! HOW LONG'S IT BEEN?
THAT... THAT WASN'T FUNNY, BANCHO...
HAR! JEST YANKIN' YER CHAIN, YA OLD DOG!


WOW!
NENE, LOOK! THEY'RE FRIENDLY!
WELL, ACTUALLY, WE NEED FUEL... AND SOME REPAIRS.

SO WHAT BRINGS YA HERE? YA COME FISHIN' FER WOMEN?
BWÄ HA!HA
"BANCHO"? WHAT AN ODD NAME.
THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?

WE'LL LOOK AROUND LATER.
ZIZI, YOU'RE SO LOUD.
HEY! WHAT'S THAT? A BAZAAR? WHEEE!


YER KIDDIN' ME!
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!
IT'S NO JOKE! BECAUSE OF THIS BRAT, I'M NOW A WANTED MAN!
JUST LIKE YOU!
.....
I'VE REPLACED SUV AS CAPTAIN. NICE TO MEET YOU.
THE NAME'S CAPTAIN ZIZI.
HEY!
DON'T BE DIS-RESPECTIN' THE MARIA! AND WHO'RE YOU? SUV HAS A KID?!
NOW, NOW.
NYAH!
YOU REALLY HAVE CHANGED, SUV...
WELL, A LOT'S HAPPENED ...
...CLASHED SWORDS WITH THE EMPIRE?!
THIS... THIS GIRL...

...WHAT'S THE STORY ON THIS "EMPIRE" YOU GUYS KEEP TALKING ABOUT?
SO...
MUST BE PI-RATES.
YOU AND YOUR MEN ARE FIGHTING THE EMPIRE?
WHATTA YA SAY, LASS? ARE YA WILLIN' TO JOIN US?
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT!
WELL THEN...
YEAH, SO FILL ME IN, OKAY?
YOU...
YOU DON'T KNOW?!
WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING WHO THEY WERE... YOU...

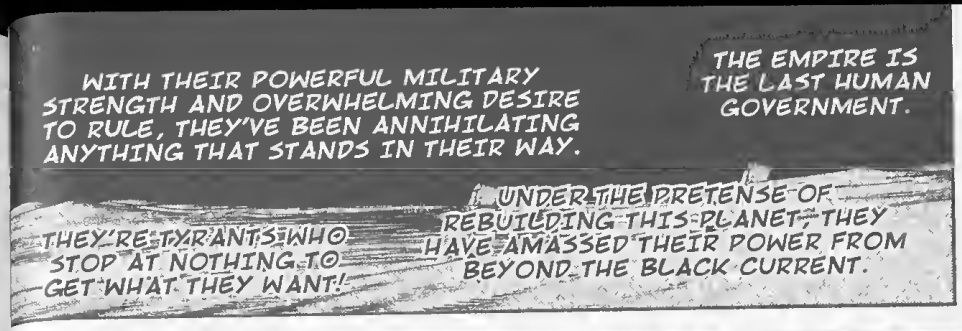
AAAHH!!
NOW THIS... THIS IS A KID WITH SOME BALLS!
ZIZI!
A TOAST TO ZIZI!!
AYE! JOIN US!
JOIN US INSTEAD!
YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO BE PART 'A SUV'S RAGTAG CREW!
THREE CHEERS FOR ZIZI!!
PHTT.
NOTHIN' BUT TROU-BLE...

I'M GOING TO MY PARENT'S BIRTHPLACE! THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT!
...BUT MY DESTINY LIES ON A DIFFERENT PATH.

WE'D GLADLY WELCOME ANOTHER STRONG HAND!
THE EMPIRE IS THE ENEMY OF EVERY FREE PERSON. JOIN US!
I'M SORRY, BANCHO ...

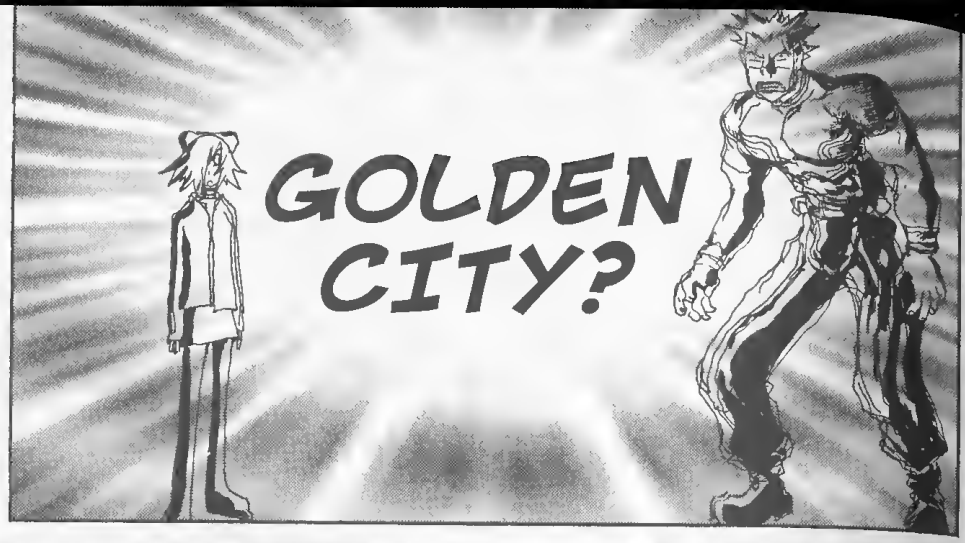
AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY ANY-THING?!
WELL?
THROB
THROB

.....
HOW ABOUT YOU TRY TALKING SOME SENSE INTO HER? SHE'S ALWAYS GOING ON WITH HER LITTLE DELUSIONS.
SHE'S A STRANGE ONE.
TOLD YA.

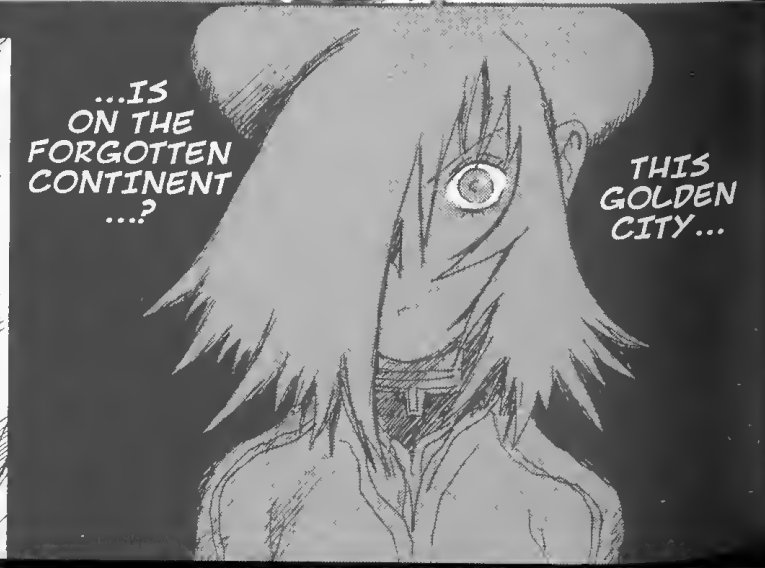

WITH THEIR POWERFUL MILITARY STRENGTH AND OVERWHELMING DESIRE TO RULE, THEY'VE BEEN ANNIHILATING ANYTHING THAT STANDS IN THEIR WAY.
THE EMPIRE IS THE LAST HUMAN GOVERNMENT.
THEY'RE TYRANTS WHO STOP AT NOTHING TO GET WHAT THEY WANT!
UNDER THE PRETENSE OF REBUILDING THIS PLANET, THEY HAVE AMASSED THEIR POWER FROM BEYOND THE BLACK CURRENT.

THEY'RE MONSTERS, ENSLAVING THE WEAK...
...OVER-WHELMING ALL WHO OPPOSE THEM.

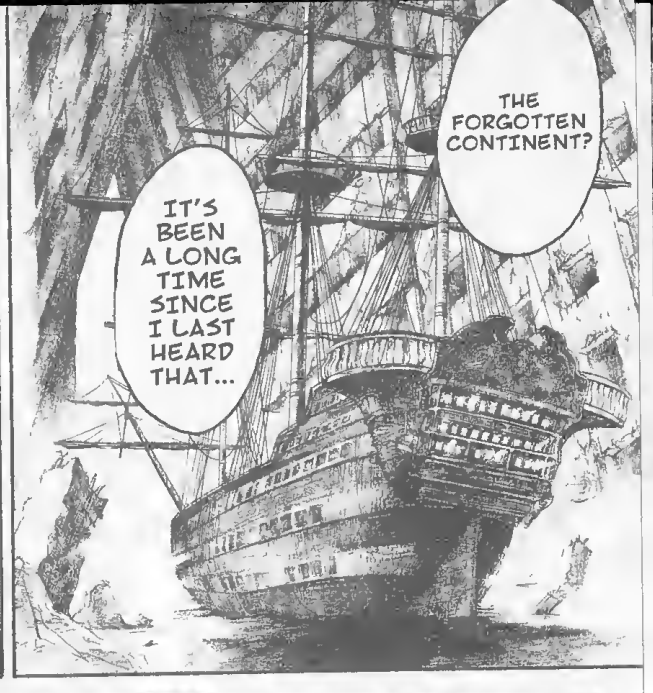
WELL, NOT THIS PIRATE, YA HEAR?!
NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO TAKE AWAY A PERSON'S FREEDOM!


GOLDEN CITY?

IT'S ONLY A LEGEND! I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS!
WHERE'S THE GOLD?!
COUGH IT UP! WHERE IS IT?!

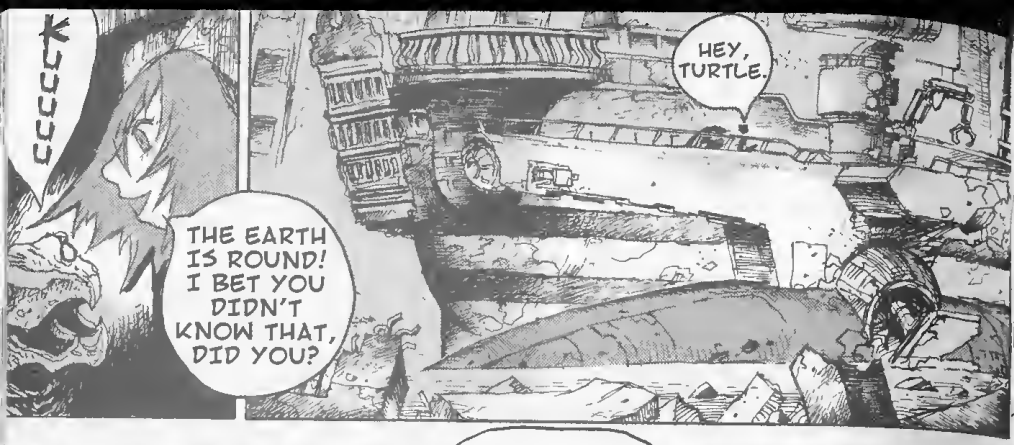

...IS ON THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT ...?
THIS GOLDEN CITY...

BWA HA HA HA!

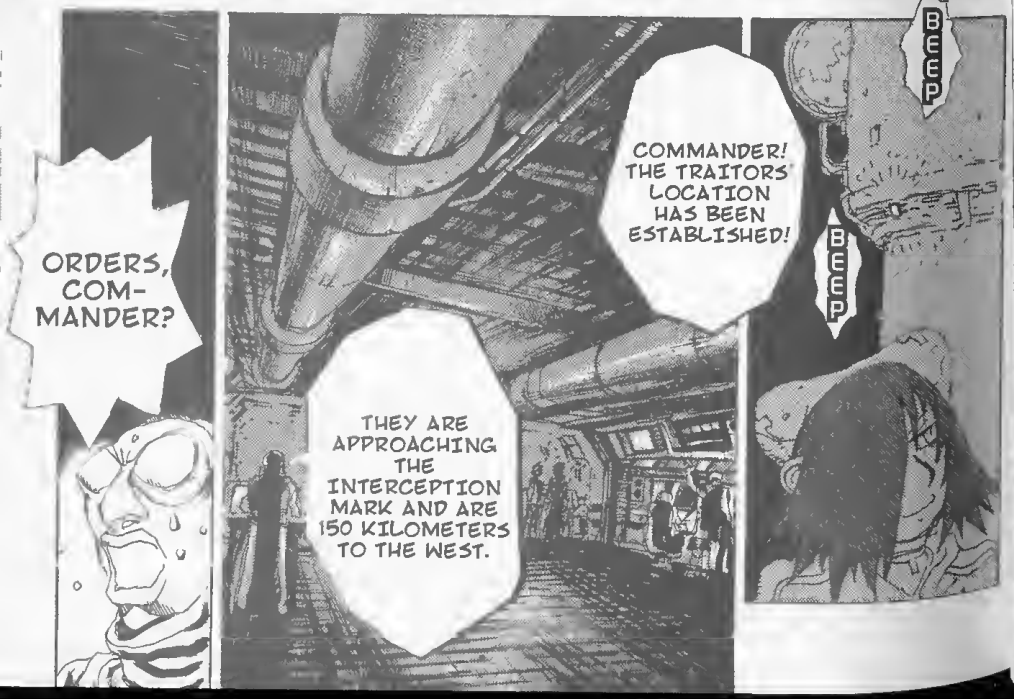

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST HEARD THAT...
THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT?

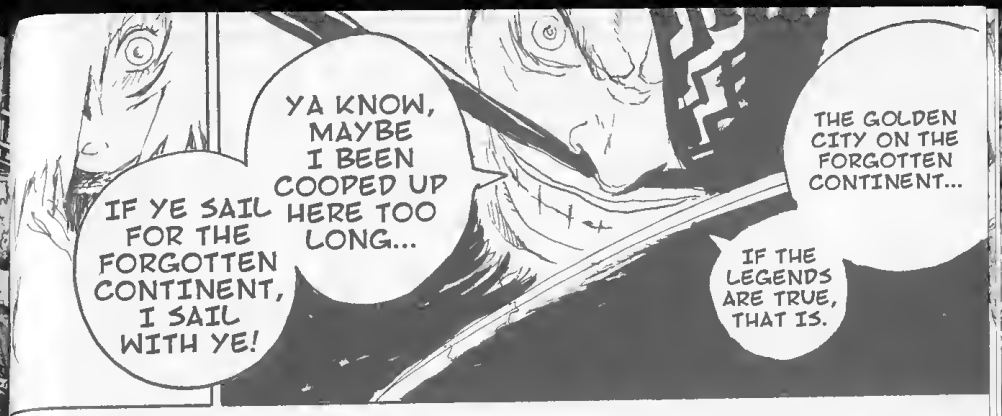
YE MAY BE MANY THINGS, SUV, BUT I NEVER TOOK YE FOR AN IDIOT! AN' THE GIRL WITH YA!
WHAT'S SO DAMN FUNNY?
HUH?

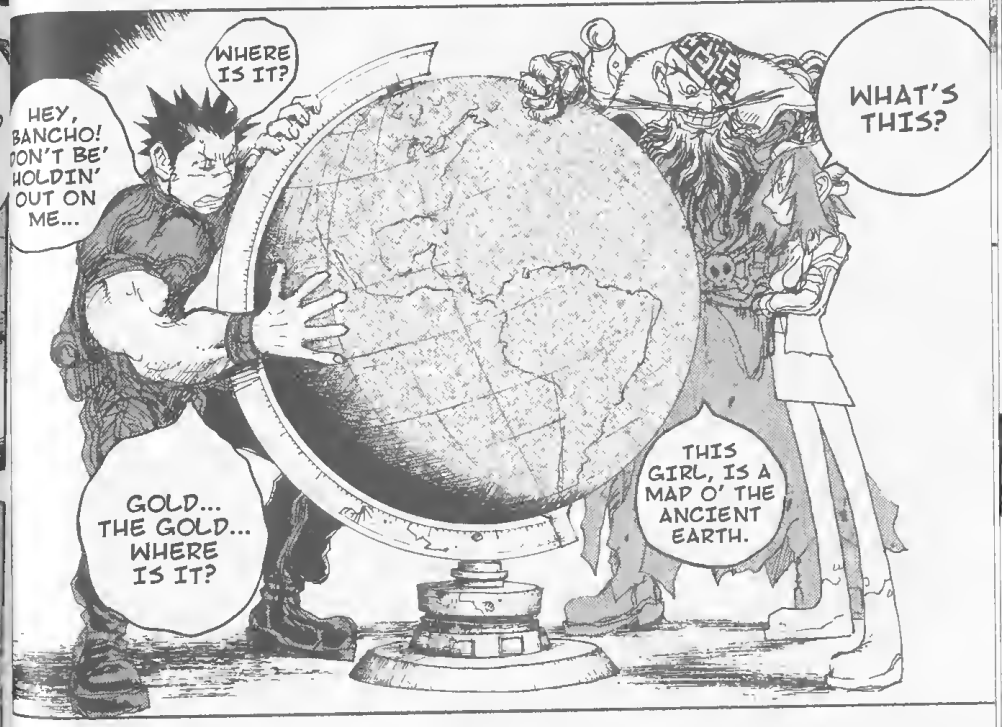
...WANT TO GO TO THE "GOLDEN CITY."
ONLY IDIOTS...


CCCCC
HEY, TURTLE.
THE EARTH IS ROUND! I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT, DID YOU?

KUUUUU
MAN, YOU DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND A WORD OF WHAT I'M SAYING.


ORDERS, COM-MANDER?
COMMANDER! THE TRAITORS LOCATION HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED!
THEY ARE APPROACHING THE INTERCEPTION MARK AND ARE 150 KILOMETERS TO THE WEST.
BEEP
BEEP


IF YE SAIL FOR THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT, I SAIL WITH YE!
YA KNOW, MAYBE I BEEN COOPED UP HERE TOO LONG...
THE GOLDEN CITY ON THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT...
IF THE LEGENDS ARE TRUE, THAT IS.


HEY, BANCHO! DON'T BE' HOLDIN' OUT ON ME...
WHERE IS IT?
WHAT'S THIS?
GOLD... THE GOLD... WHERE IS IT?
THIS GIRL, IS A MAP O' THE ANCIENT EARTH.

WHERE IS IT?!
WA HA HA!!

STONE

Episode 5 End

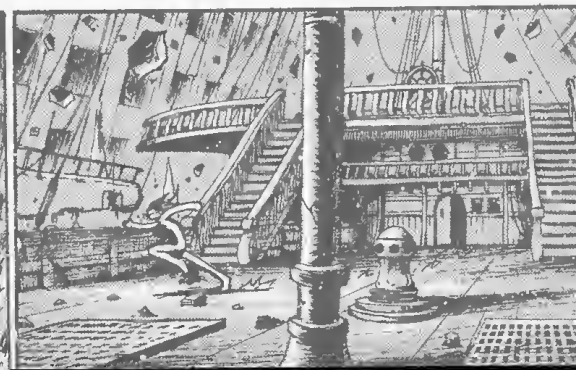
RED DATA ANIMALS

EPISODE 6
"PURPLE HAZE"

MY BABY'S STILL IN THE HOUSE!!
SAVE US!

SHUT UP, SUV!!
EVERY TIME YOU GET INVOLVED, THINGS GET WORSE!
WAIT!! ZIZI!!

WHAT THE--?!
WHERE...?!
WHAT...?!
HUH...?!

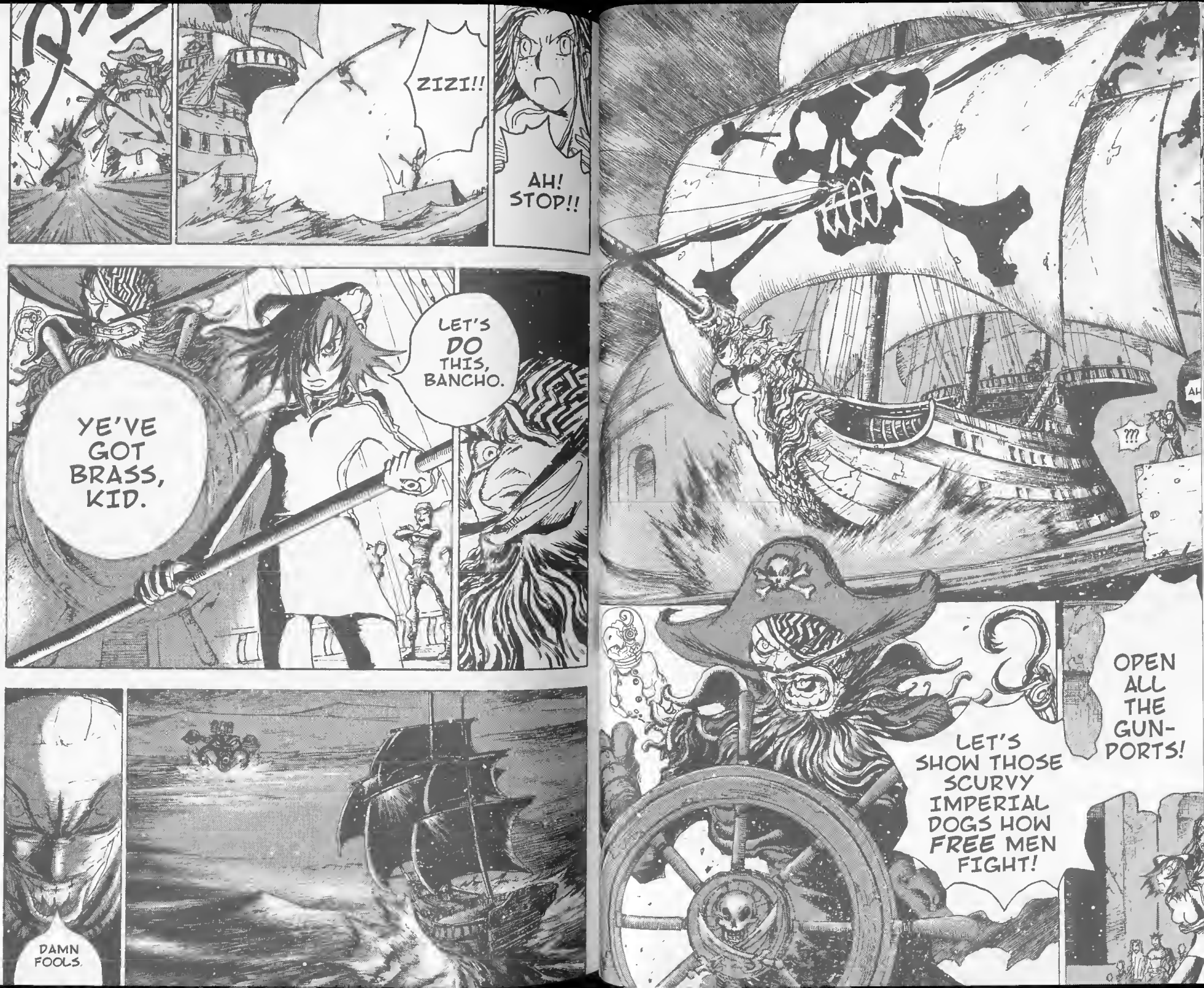


HOW DID THEY KNOW WE WERE HERE ?!
THAT BASTARD!!
THOSE WERE WARNING SHOTS! YOU WILL NOT BE SO FORTUNATE ON THE NEXT VOLLEY! NOW GIVE ME THE GIRL!
THIS IS YOUR FINAL WARNING!
WE'RE CREWED
IT'S OVER...
ONE!!
TWO!
YOU HAVE TWO SECONDS BEFORE I REDUCE YOUR ISLAND TO FLOTSAM!

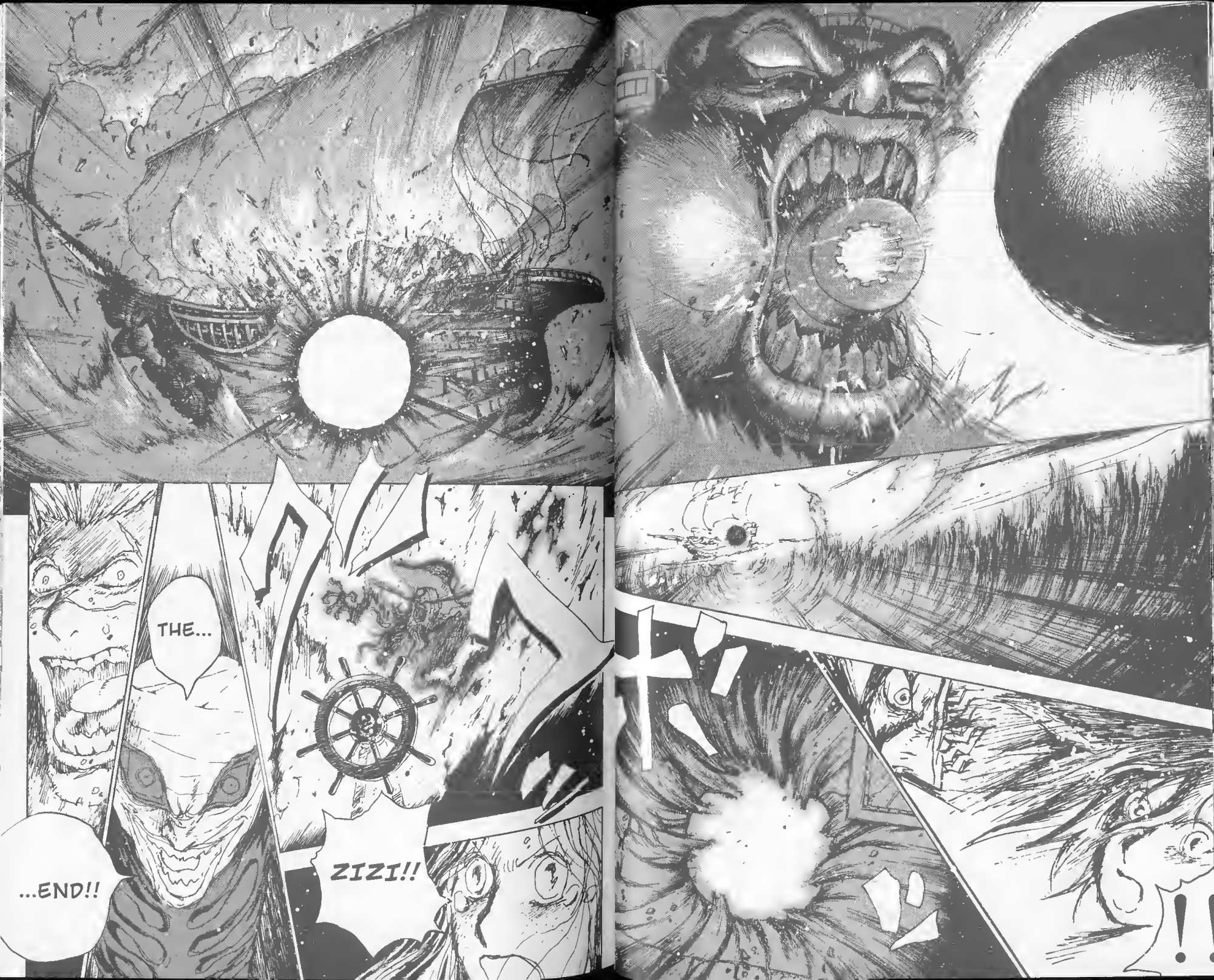
ATTENTION! THIS IS COMMANDER JANGO OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY!
YOU ARE HIDING A FUGITIVE WANTED BY THE EMPIRE! SURRENDER THE PINK-HAIRED LITTLE BITCH OR SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES!
IT'S JANGO !!
!!!
ゴゴゴゴ
...I WILL KILL EVERYONE ON THIS ISLAND!
AAAH!
LISTEN, GIRL! IF YOU DON'T SHOW YOURSELF...

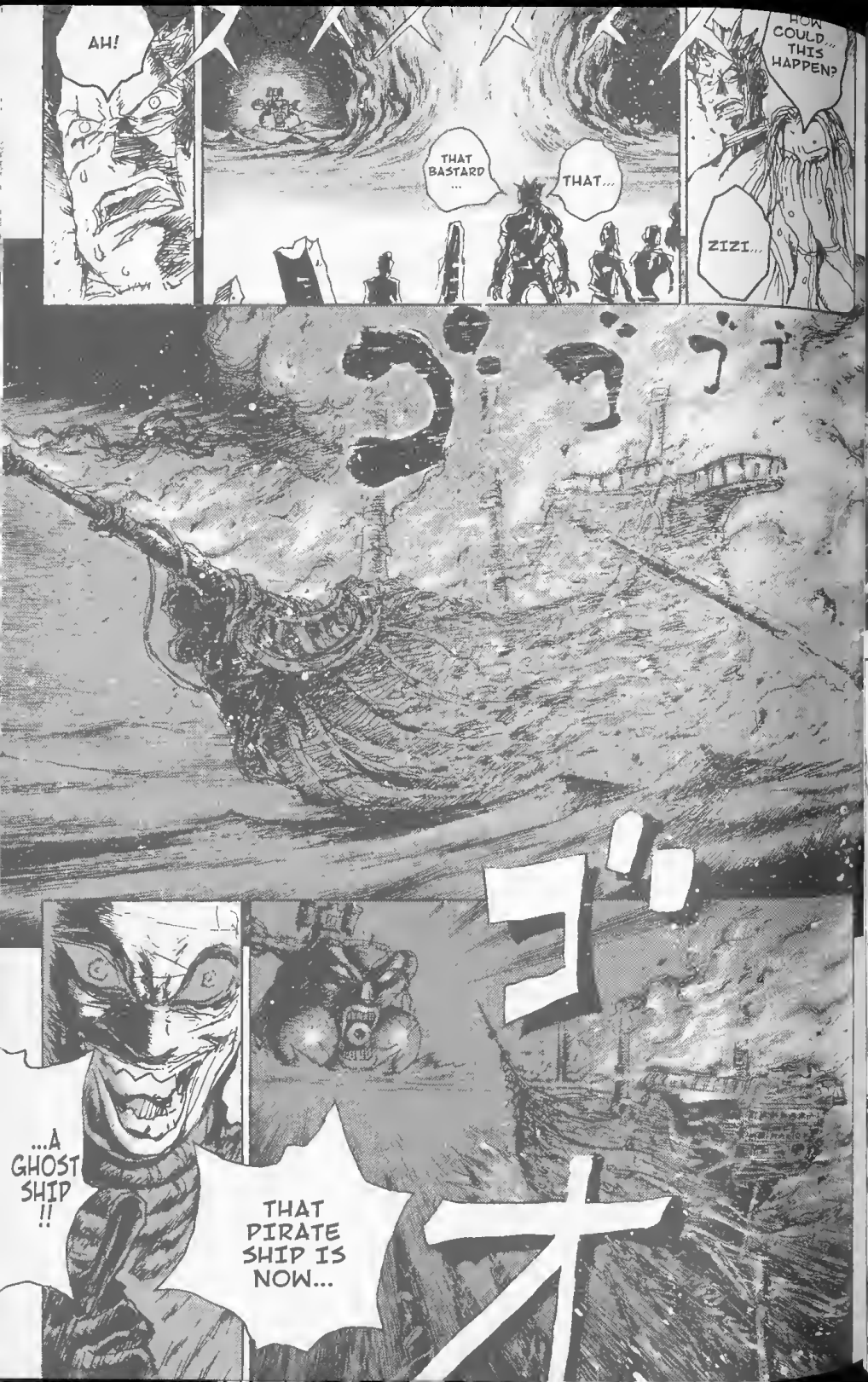
THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!
HE'S NUMBER THREE ON THE EMPIRE'S "MOST WANTED" LIST!!
IT IS HIM! I'D KNOW THAT FACE ANYWHERE!
HEE HEE HEE. CHASING AFTER THAT DAMN BRAT HAS NETTED ME AN UNEXPECTED REWARD!
LET ME GO, NENE!
ZIZI! STOP THIS INSTANT!
I HAVE TO STOP HIM!

OH!
SHE CAME OUT! IT'S THE KID!
WHAT? LET ME SEE!
THAT'S IT!
YOUR HESITATION HAS SEALED YOUR FATE! OPEN FI--
IT'S...
...IT'S HIM!
HMM ?!
GOTCHA, SWEET MEAT!
GUNNER! TARGET THAT BRAT AND...
THE MAN KNOWN ONLY AS...
..BANCHO!

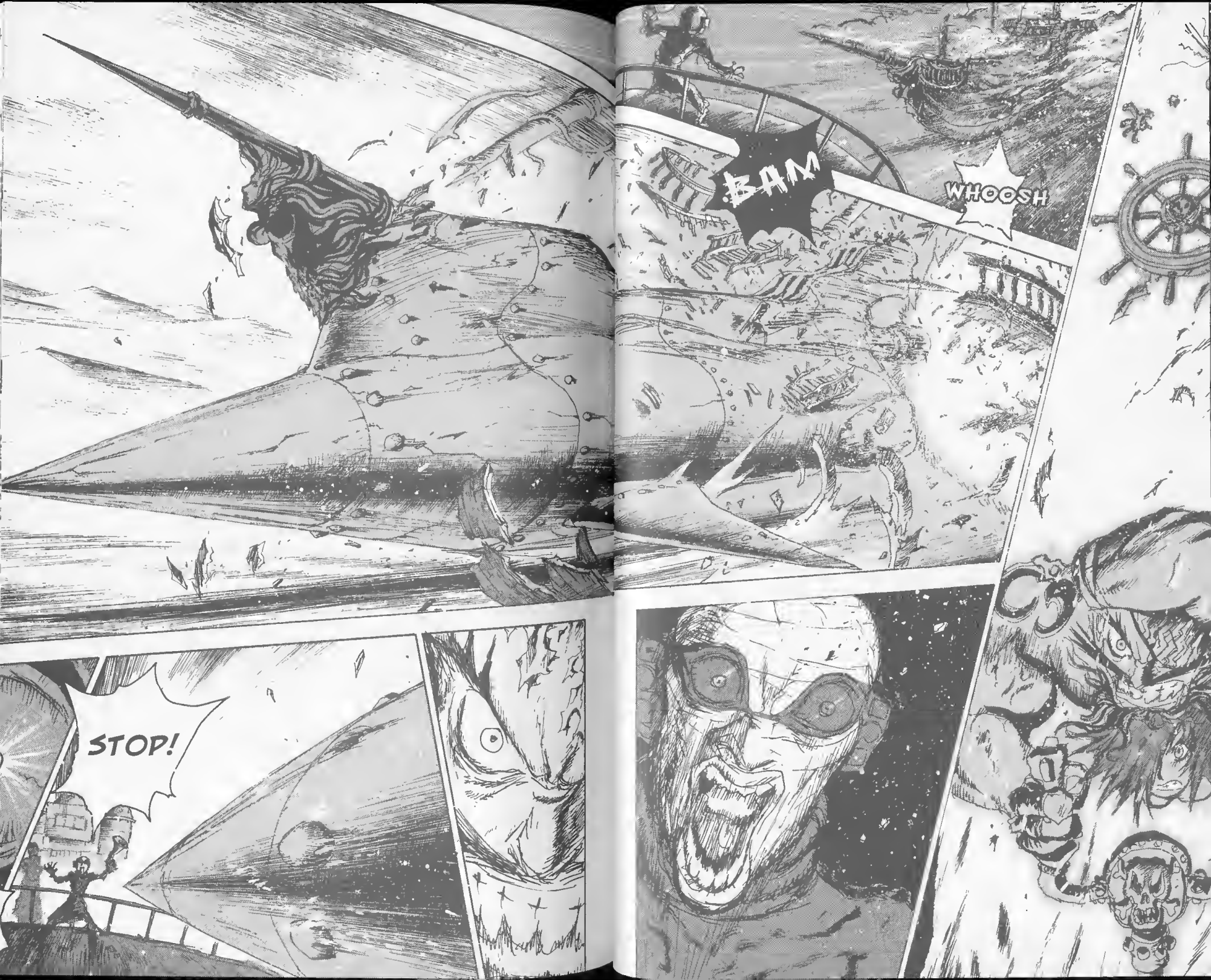

ZIZI!!
AH! STOP!!
YE'VE GOT BRASS, KID.
LET'S DO THIS, BANCHO.
DAMN FOOLS.
???
AH
OPEN ALL THE GUN-PORTS!
LET'S SHOW THOSE SCURVY IMPERIAL DOGS HOW FREE MEN FIGHT!

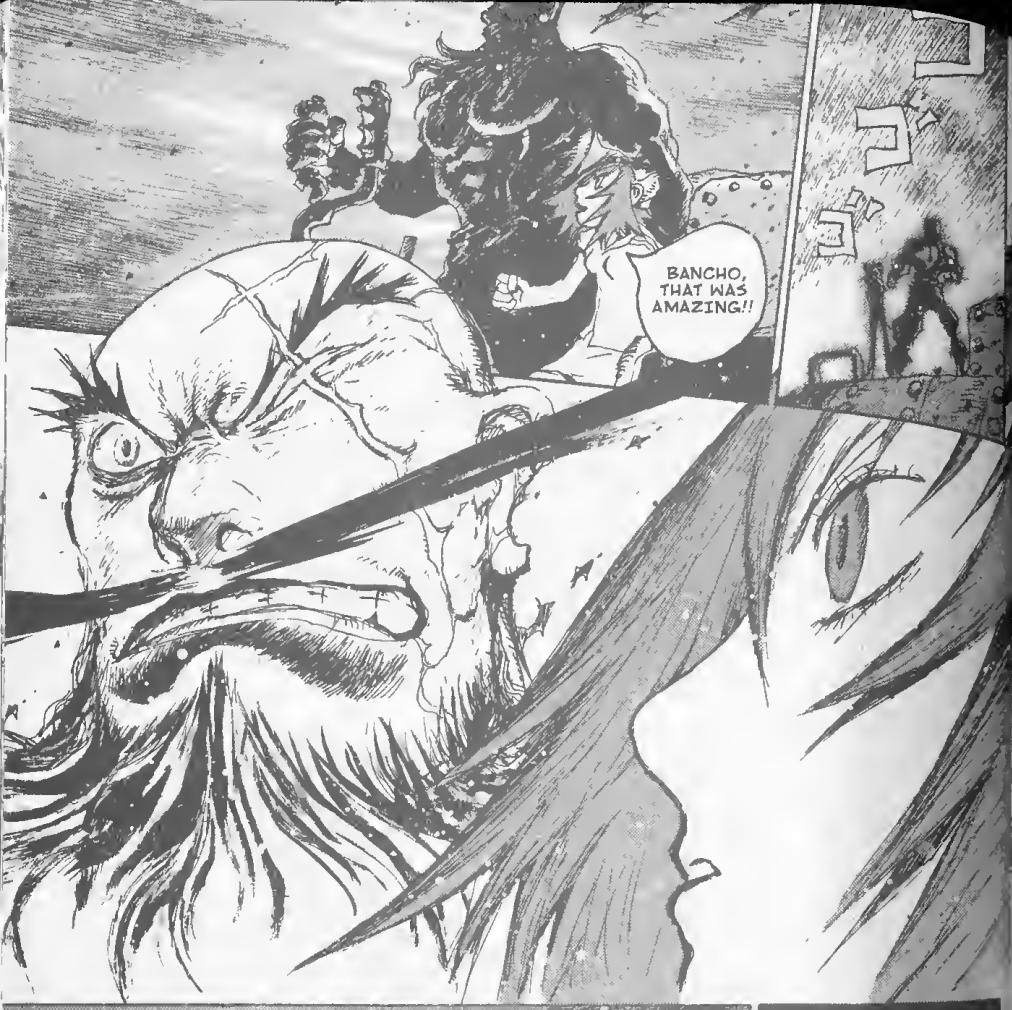
AIM TRUE, BOYS! THEY'RE FAST ONES!
KILL! KILL! KILL!
HA! THEIR MEASLY MISSILES CAN'T EVEN PIERCE OUR SHELL!
SIR! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS! COME INSIDE!
NO! THE LAST THING I WANT THAT WORTHLESS PIRATE TO SEE...
...IS THE FACE OF THE MAN WHO SENT HIM TO HELL!!


THE...
...END!!
ZIZI!!


AH!
THAT BASTARD ...
THAT...
HOW COULD... THIS HAPPEN?
ZIZI...
ゴゴゴゴ
ゴゴ
ゴ
...A GHOST SHIP !!
THAT PIRATE SHIP IS NOW...

...THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING !!
SO ENDS THE CAREER OF BANCHO, TERROR OF THE SHIFTING SANDS!!
BUT FOR THE LEGEND OF JANGO, IMPERIAL PIRATE HUNTER...


BAM
WHOOSH
STOP!


BANCHO, THAT WAS AMAZING!!

LISTEN TO THE CELEBRATION!
WE'RE HEROES!

YO HO!
AND WHEN THEY DO...I'LL BE THE FIRST TO STRIKE!
ALL RIGHT, LISTEN UP! THE ISLAND'S BEEN DISCOVERED BY THE EMPIRE.
THEY'LL DEFINITELY BE BACK... YOU CAN BET ON IT!
IT'S ALL... MY FAULT...
IT'S...
YOU'RE WRONG, ZIZI!
WOW, BANCHO ...
...THESE ISLANDERS HATE THE EMPIRE AS MUCH AS YOU AND I.

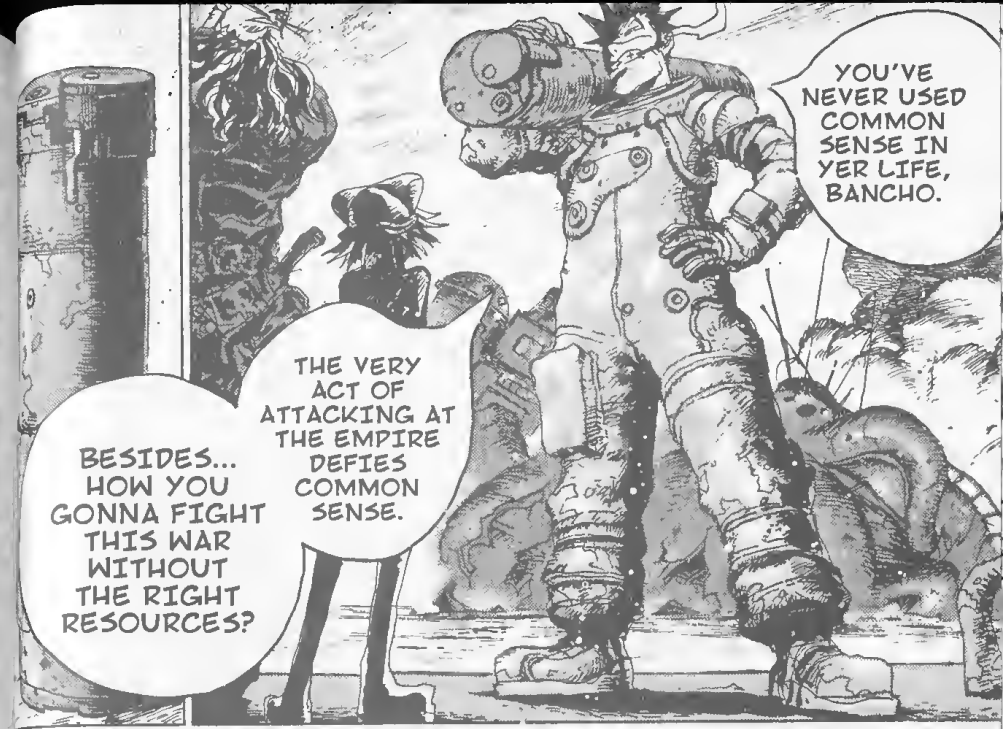
WELL, WELL! AREN'T YOU THE POPULAR ONE!
LONG LIVE BANCHO! LONG LIVE THE PIRATES!
AGAIN WE OWE OUR LIVES TO THE ISLAND'S GUARDIAN!!
WHOA!
YOUR ARM... I'M SORRY... THAT WAS MY FAULT, WASN'T IT?
THIS? NAH, IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.
I BROUGHT IT FOR YOU, AS A TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION.
LOOK HERE!
URGH.
THANKS TO YOU, THE ISLAND IS SAVED!
HAIL BANCHO, SAVIOR OF THE ISLAND!
YOU REALLY SMASHED THOSE IMPERIAL SCOUNDRELS!

DO YOU MEAN TO CROSS THE BLACK CURRENT?
WHAT?
EXACTLY. BEYOND THE CURRENT, MY COMRADES ARE WORKING ON OVERTHROWING THE EMPIRE!
DAMN STRAIGHT! I'D CROSS THE RIVER OF THE DEAD ITSELF...
...TO TAKE THE FIGHT TO THOSE IMPERIAL BASTARDS!
THEY'LL COME FROM BEYOND THE BLACK CURRENT ON THEIR FLEET OF SHIPS.
BUT WHAT THEY DON'T KNOW IS HOW MANY OF US WILL STAND AGAINST THEM!
OTHERS BESIDES THE MEN ON THE ISLAND?
KEEP YER HEAD AND USE COMMON SENSE, YOU'LL DO FINE.
ZIZI...
OUR INGENUITY AND ADAPT-ABILITY IS WHAT HAS KEPT OUR RACE ALIVE.
WHADDA YA MEAN, "COMMON SENSE"?
FEH!
ONLY WITH DIVE SUITS AND SHIPS CAN WE FACE MOTHER NATURE. YET WE REMAIN HER MOST PRECIOUS INHABITANTS.
WE'RE DIFFERENT FROM THE FISH. WE CAN'T SURVIVE WITHIN THE SAKAI FOR EVEN TWO SECONDS.

...THEY WOULD HAVE COME THIS WAY, LOOKING FOR MORE LAND TO CONQUER.
SOONER OR LATER...
WORSE THAN THE BLACK CURRENT?!
WAIT A SECOND!
THEY THINK THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO EVERYTHING THEY SEE.
?!
THEY'RE EVEN WORSE THAN THE BLACK CURRENT.
TO COMPARE THE EMPIRE TO THE BLACK CURRENT...
THE BLACK CURRENT... NOTHING CAN SURVIVE THERE!

SO...
...SEEING AS HOW I SHOULD PROBABLY DISAPPEAR...
...I'M GONNA NEED ALL THE TREASURE I CAN GET FROM THAT GOLDEN CITY.

SO YE'RE NOT GOING TO HELP US FIGHT THE EMPIRE?
CAN'T SPEND THE GOLD IF I'M DEAD.


YOU'VE NEVER USED COMMON SENSE IN YER LIFE, BANCHO.
THE VERY ACT OF ATTACKING AT THE EMPIRE DEFIES COMMON SENSE.
BESIDES... HOW YOU GONNA FIGHT THIS WAR WITHOUT THE RIGHT RESOURCES?

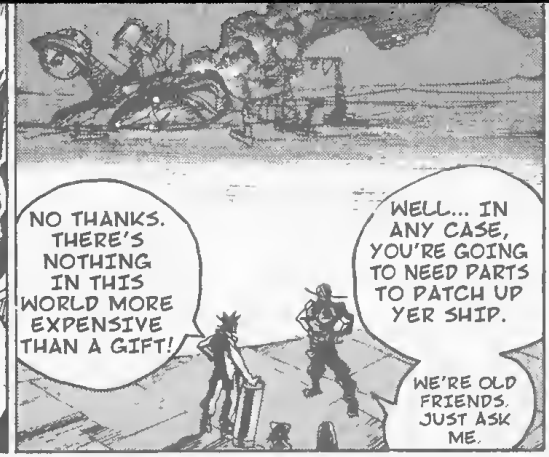
IT'S GONNA TAKE A LOT OF CASH TO HIRE THE SHIPS AND GET THE EQUIPMENT, BANCHO.
CASH YOU CAN FIND BY TAKING US TO THE GOLDEN CITY!!

I SEE HOW IT IS.
YE'VE NEVER GOTTEN INVOLVED IN ANYTHING 'LESS THERE WAS SUMTHIN' IN IT FOR YOU, SUV.
THAT'S RIGHT.
BUT YE'RE ALREADY UP TO YER EYEBALLS IN THIS ONE!
YEAH ...
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.

TO ACCEPT YER DESTINY, MAKE YER FATHER PROUD!
TO JOIN WITH ME AND ZIZI...
...AND BRING THE BLOODY EMPIRE TO ITS KNEES!

MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY!
YOU CAN'T HIDE YOUR TRUE NATURE.

SHIT!
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS CHARITY FROM A PIRATE!


NO THANKS. THERE'S NOTHING IN THIS WORLD MORE EXPENSIVE THAN A GIFT!
WELL... IN ANY CASE, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED PARTS TO PATCH UP YER SHIP.
WE'RE OLD FRIENDS. JUST ASK ME.

PIRATING IS IN YER BLOOD, MATE!
YER OLD MAN WOULD BE ASHAMED TO HEAR YE TALK THAT WAY, SUV. THAT'S NOT HOW HE RAISED YA.

I HAVE NO INTEREST IN HAVING A LIFE LIKE YOURS, RUNNING AROUND, BEING CHASED BY THE EMPIRE!
WHO THE HELL WOULD WANT TO BECOME A PIRATE?!

FOR WHAT?

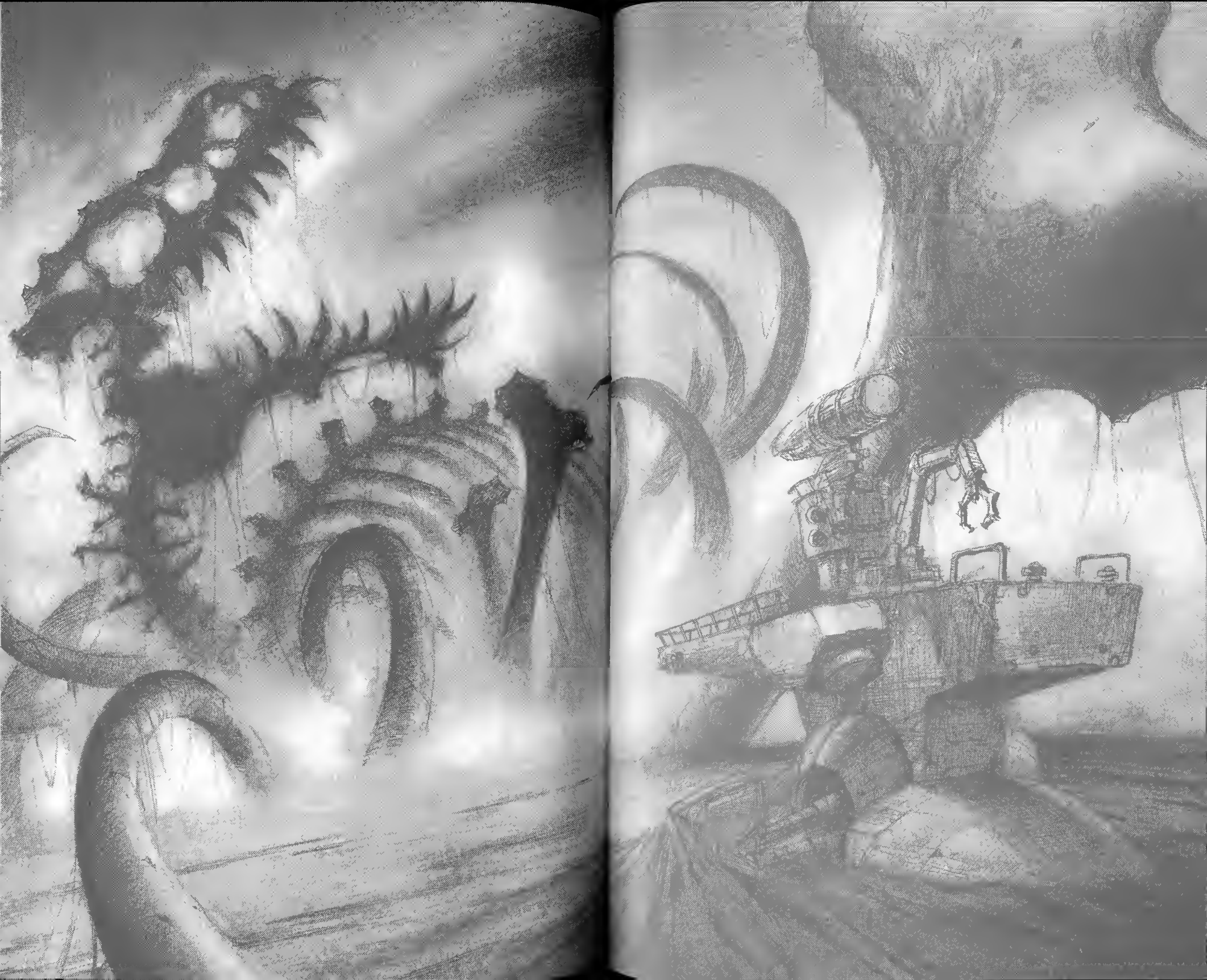
YE'VE GOT A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY HERE, SUV.
WELL, AS FAR AS THE EMPIRE'S CONCERNED, YER NOW PROBABLY AS WANTED AS I AM.

COUNT ON IT, GIRL!
ZIZI! I'LL BE SEEIN' YE AGAIN!
ZIZI...
I AM CERTAIN OUR PATHS WILL CROSS AGAIN.
...YOURS IS A DESTINY THAT WILL OUTSHINE US ALL!
I HAVE A FEELING...

ARGH!
WHAT ?
ROCKMAN?
YE MUST GO TO HIM.
ROCK... MAN...
WHAT COULD IT MEAN?
100 KILO-METERS SOUTH IN THAT DIRECTION IS AN ISLAND.
THERE, THE MAN THEY CALL "ROCKMAN" RESIDES...

THE GOLD !!
IT'S NOT JUST A DREAM!
THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT... I KNOW IT'S OUT THERE!
BANCHO SAID AS MUCH HIMSELF.
OF A CREW OF SEVEN THAT VENTURED TO THE GOLDEN CITY, ONLY ONE RETURNED HOME. HE'S THE LAST SURVIVING WITNESS!
NO WAY...
WH--?!
AAAHH!!
Wooo!
ALL RIGHT... SO IT AIN'T THE WIND!
WEAPONS AT THE READY, MEN!

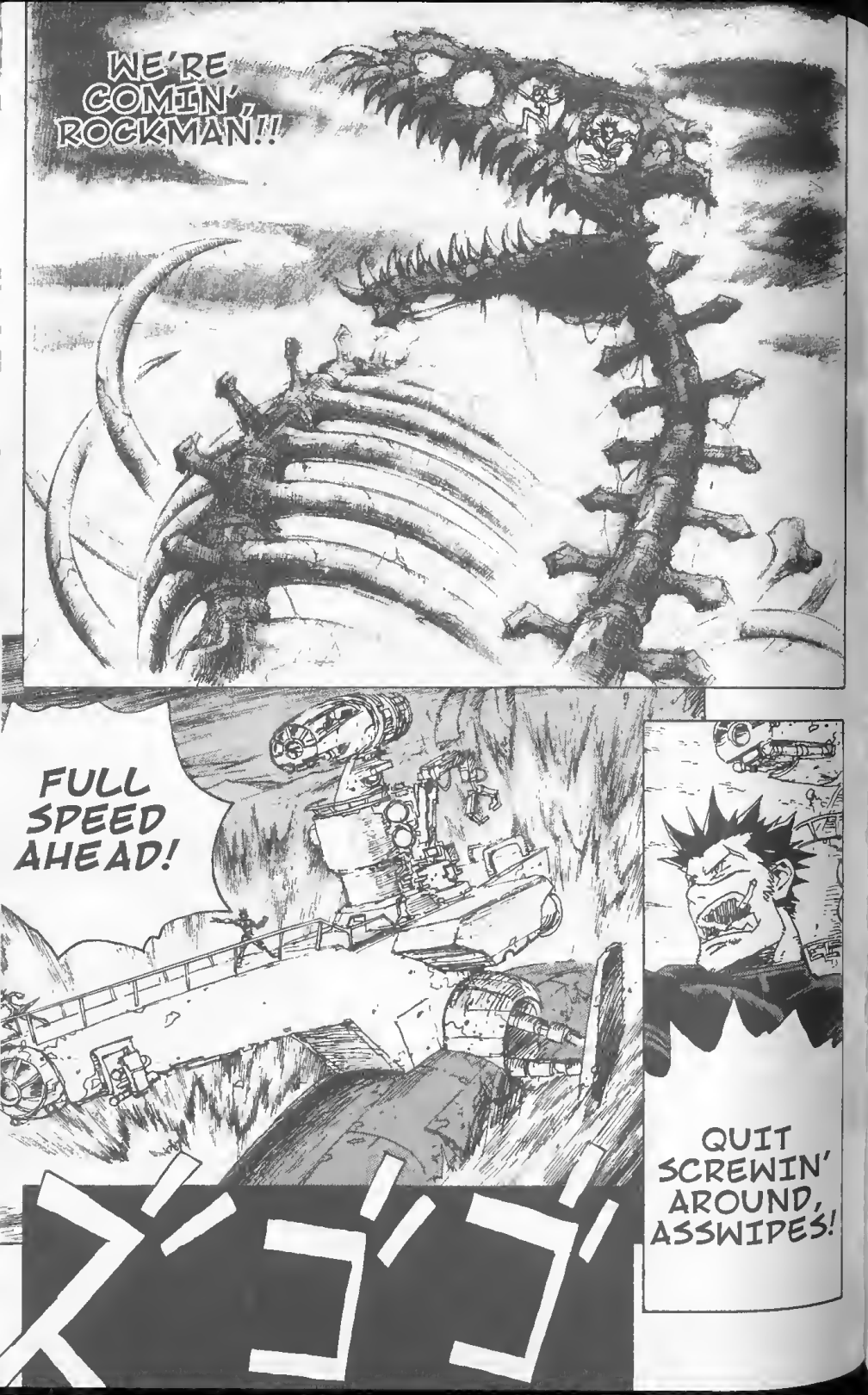
SEEMS DIFFERENT, SOMEHOW. WHADDA YA THINK?
NICO, THIS FOG'S A LOT THICKER THAN BACK AT BANCHO'S.
CAPTAIN! LET'S TURN BACK!
IDIOT!
WHAT WAS THAT?! THAT CREEPY VOICE!!
GASP!
WITHOUT HIM, WE'LL NEVER FIND THE GOLDEN CITY!
IT'S JUST THE WIND! WE'RE NOT GOIN' ANYWHERE UNTIL WE FIND THIS "ROCKMAN."
I THINK YOU'RE BEING MORE CHATTY THAN USUAL, CAPTAIN.
DON'T BE CUTE, NICO.
WE'RE IN AN UNCHARTED SECTOR OF THE SAKAI.
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT WE MAY RUN INTO OUT HERE.



.....
.....
UGH...
WHAT A STENCH!
ANSWER ME, ROCKMAN!!
HELLO! WHERE ARE YOU?!

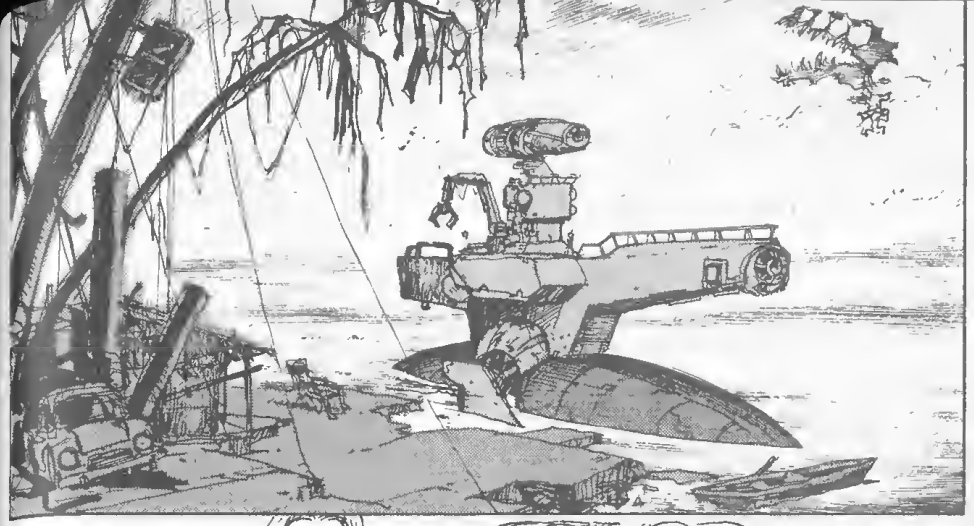
DON'T BE STUPID, GIRL!
THOSE ARE JUST BONES!!
IS THAT ROCKMAN?!
WHAT IS THAT THING?!

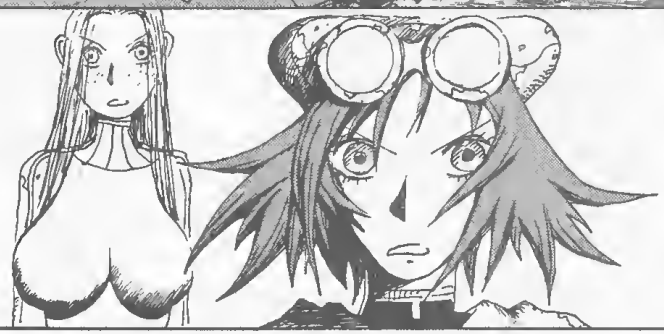
EPISODE 7
"ROCK MAN BLUES"


WE'RE COMIN', ROCKMAN!!
FULL SPEED AHEAD!
ゴゴゴ
QUIT SCREWIN' AROUND, ASSWIPES!

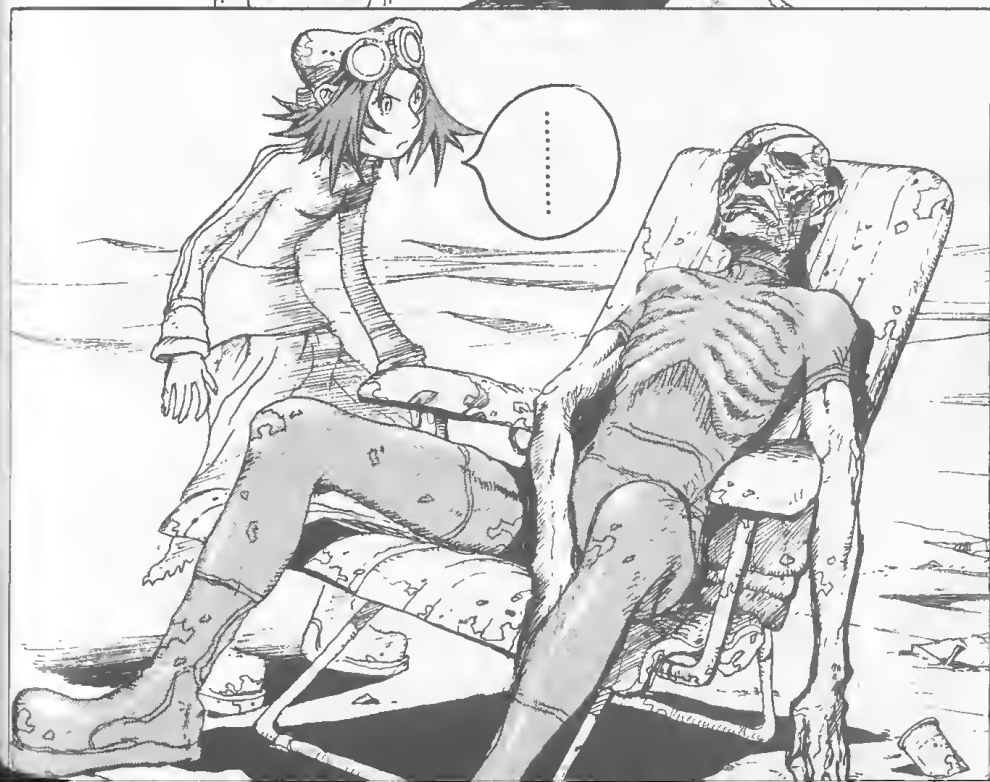
I SEE SOMETHING!
WHAT'S THAT? SUV, THERE'S SOMETHING OVER THERE!
WOW!!
THIS FROM A GIRL THAT THOUGHT MOLDY BONES WERE ROCKMAN...
..ROCK-MAN'S HOME?!
NEEEAT!
IS THAT...
WAIT! I SEE IT TOO!

HELLO THERE.

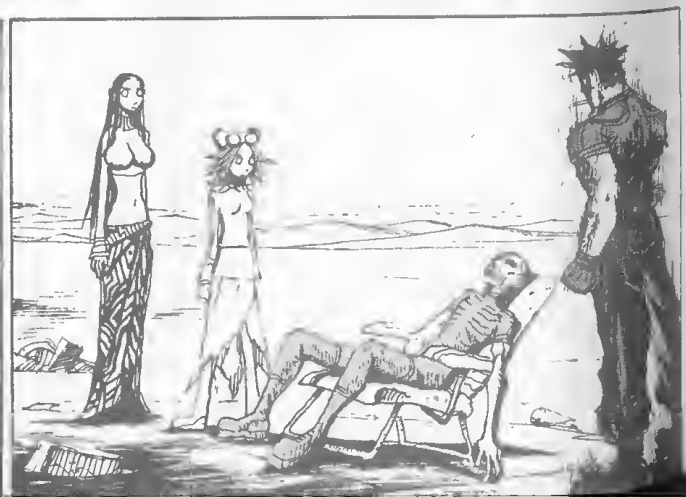




...ROCKMAN?
COULD THIS GUY ACTUALLY BE...


.....

HE LOOK'S FRIGGIN' DEAD.



HELLO, ROCKMAN.
YOU KNOW WHERE THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT IS, DON'T YOU?
PLEASE, SIR... I WANT YOU TO TELL ME HOW TO FIND THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT.
HMPH.
NO WAY... HE'S ANCIENT.
THIS IS THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF THE GOLDEN CITY?
WE'RE SCREWED! HE'S PROBABLY TOTALLY SENILE!

HOLY SHIT!
HE MOVED...
STAMP
GULP!

I AIN'T KIDDIN' AROUND, OLD MAN! WHERE IS IT?!
GRAB
AAH!!
CAPTAIN! YOU CAN'T HANDLE OLD FOLK SO ROUGHLY!! YOU'LL BREAK HIS HIP!
WHAT CAN YOU THREATEN ME WITH, PIRATE? I'M ALREADY PRACTICALLY DEAD.
GO AHEAD AND KILL ME.
ALLA YOU, SHUT THE HELL UP!
I KNOW THIS OLD CODGER'S TYPE. THE MORE POLITE YOU TREAT 'EM, THE MORE STUCK UP THEY ACT!!

I DON'T KNOW!!
DON'T BE THAT WAY, ROCKY!
OKAY... HOW ABOUT SEVENTY-THIRTY?
I'LL SPLIT THE TREASURE WITH YOU, WHAT DO YOU SAY? SIXTY-FORTY, EH?
JUST TELL US WHERE THE GOLDEN CITY IS AND WE'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR SOLITUDE.
COME ON, OLD MAN. YOU ARE ROCKMAN, AREN'T YOU?
WAIT A MINUTE !!
WAIT A--!
HEY!
IF YOU WANT THE TREASURE SO BAD, FIND IT YOURSELF!
HMPH!
YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE REST OF THOSE GOOD-FOR-NOTHINGS... ALWAYS AFTER BOOTY.
ROCK-MAN?

YOU OLD BASTARD!
GO AHEAD, BOY... IF YOU'VE GOT THE SAND FOR IT!
YOU BIG, DUMB OAF!!
ZIZI! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING ?!
GRAB
IT CAN'T BE!

GRR!
!!
I DON'T HAVE TO KILL YA, OLD MAN. I CAN PUT ONE IN YOUR SHOULDER, MAKE THE PAIN LAST A WHILE. FEEL LIKE TALKIN' YET?

AAAHHH!!!!!
ERGH!
GUGH!

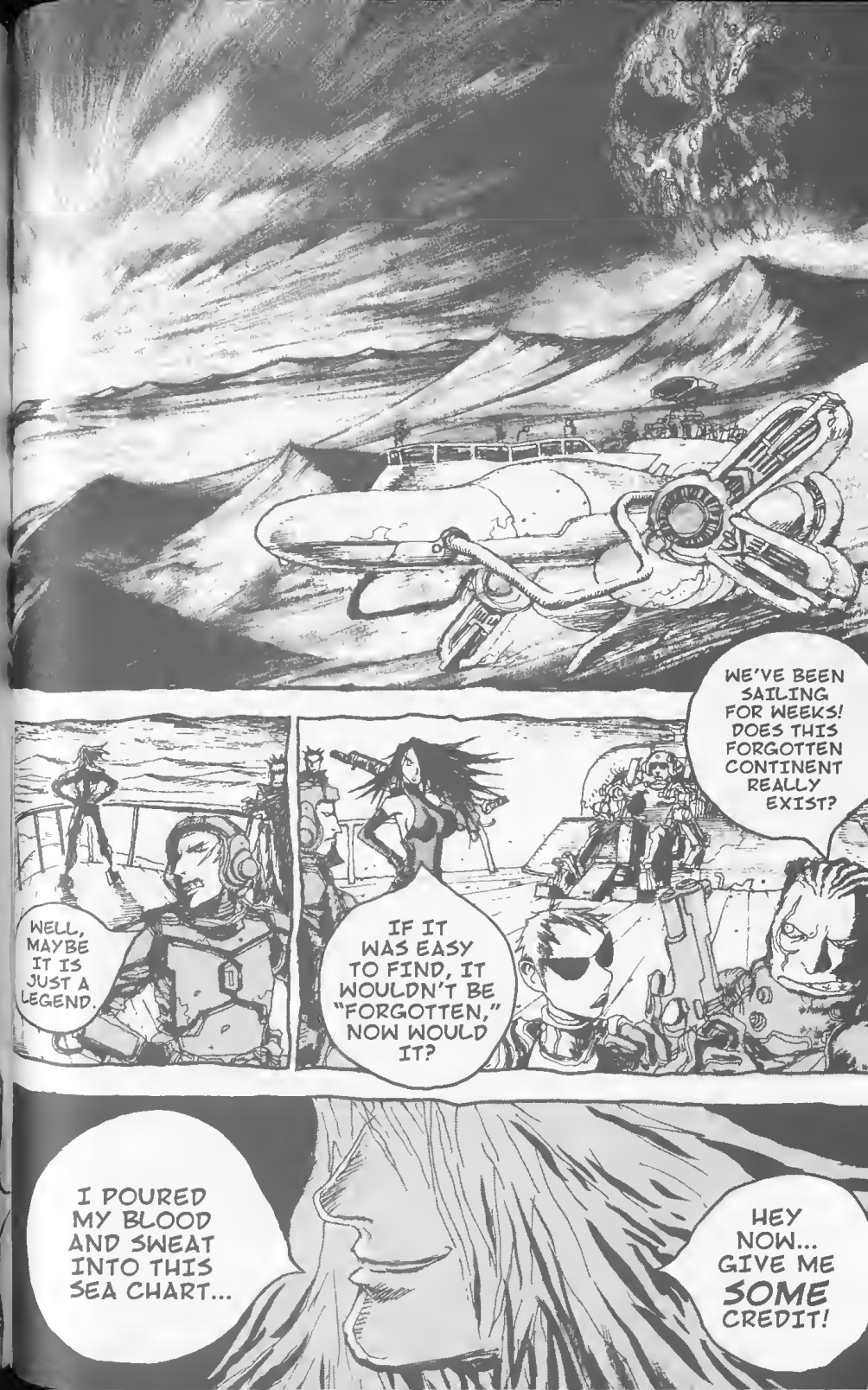
EEEEERRRGHHH!
GWAAA AHHH!!!
AH!
ROCKMAN! WAIT!
CRAZY OLD MAN!
SHIT!
SLAM
SHALL WE PREPARE FOR DEPARTURE, CAP'N?
OF COURSE NOT, YOU IDIOT!
DON'T FOLLOW HIM. HE'S DANGEROUS RIGHT NOW.
BUT... FIRST-MATE...
!!
AH!
ニゲッ
GIVE ME BACK MY KNIFE!!
ゴォ
!

WOOOH...
OOH...
OOOH...
OOH...
OOOH...
OOH...
GWAAA!
HUFF
HUFF

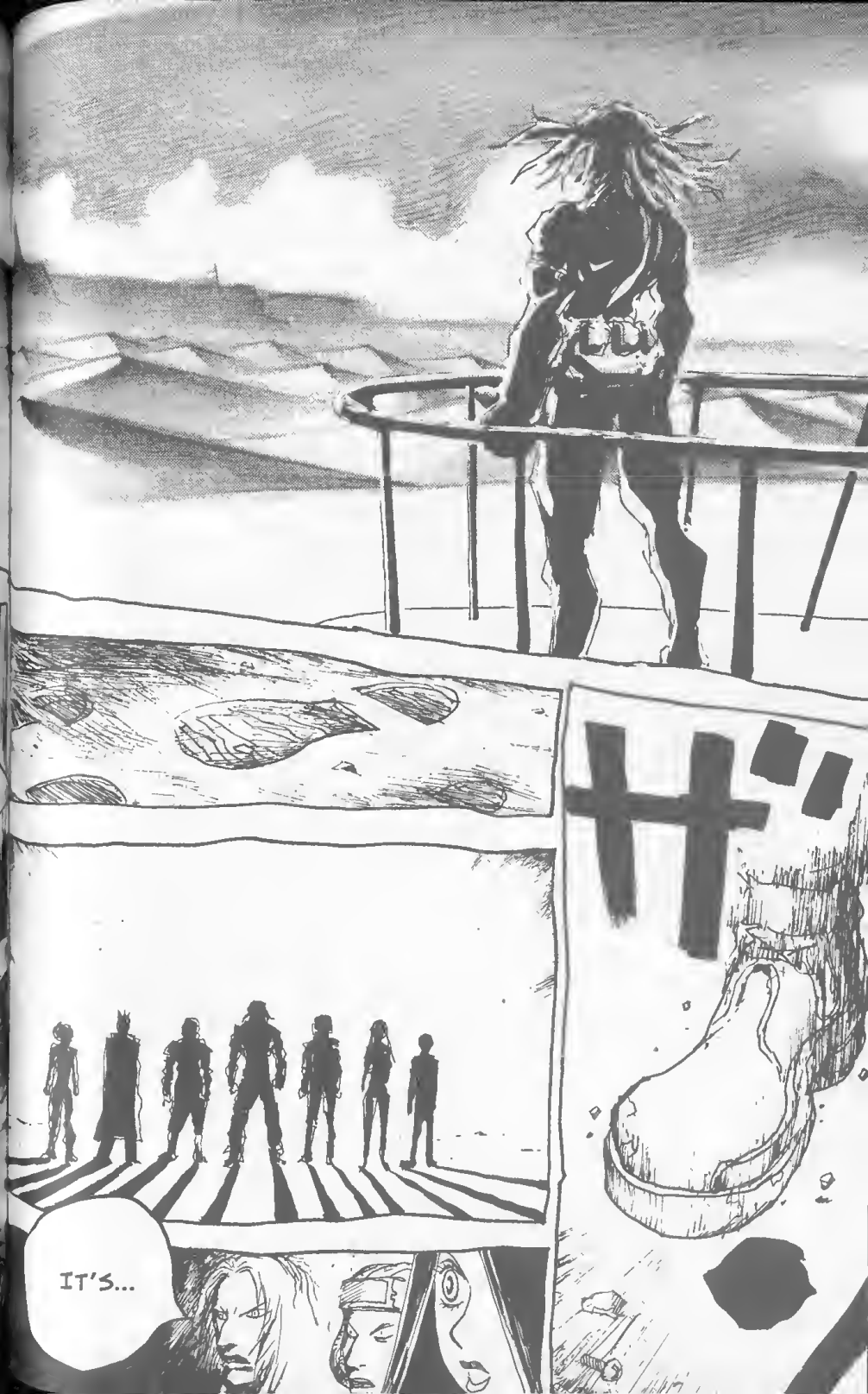
THAT CRAZY, DRIED-UP OLD BASTARD IS OUR ONLY LINK TO THE GOLDEN CITY!

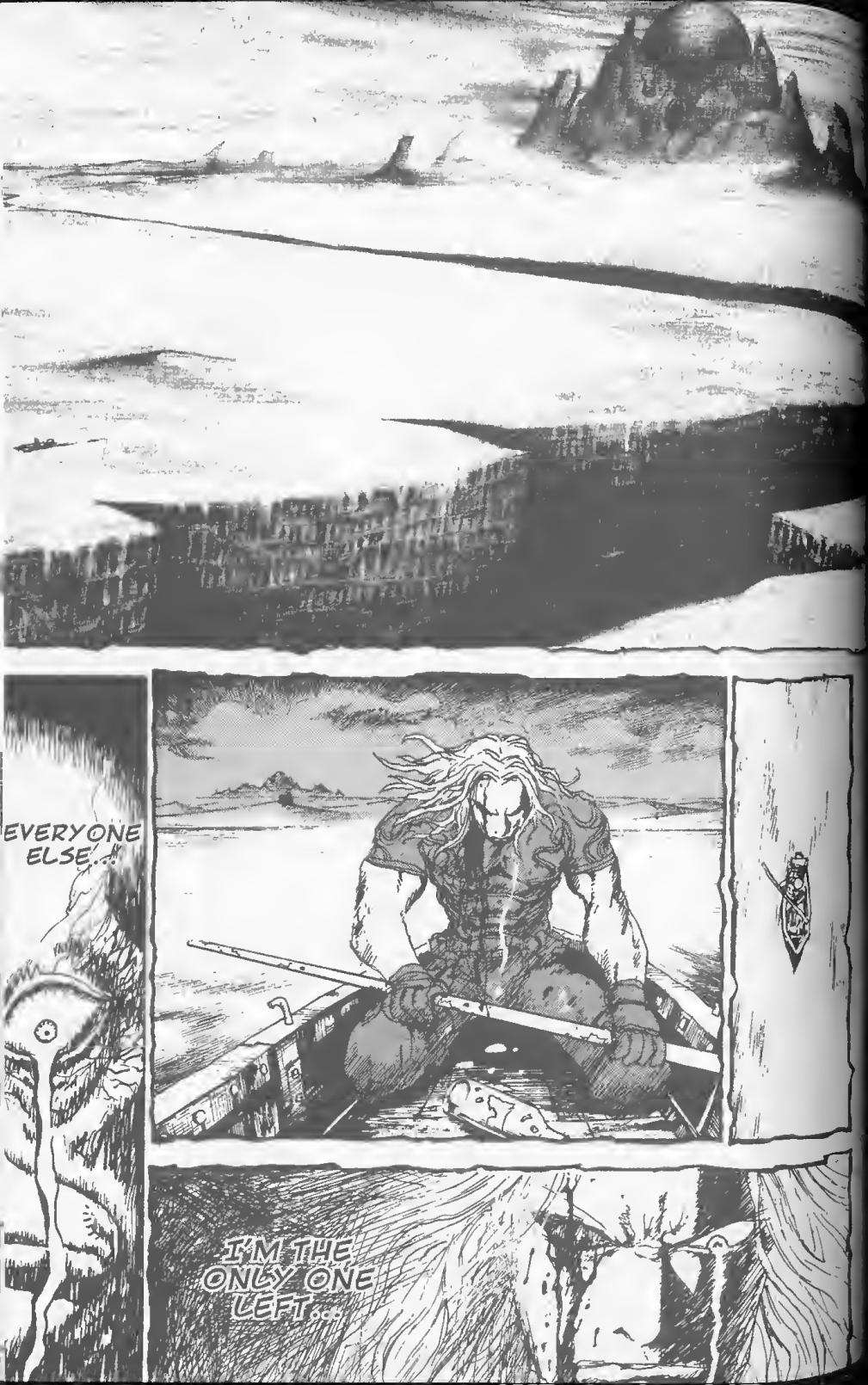
GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT THE NIGHT...
SHIT! HOW LONG IS THIS GOING TO TAKE?!

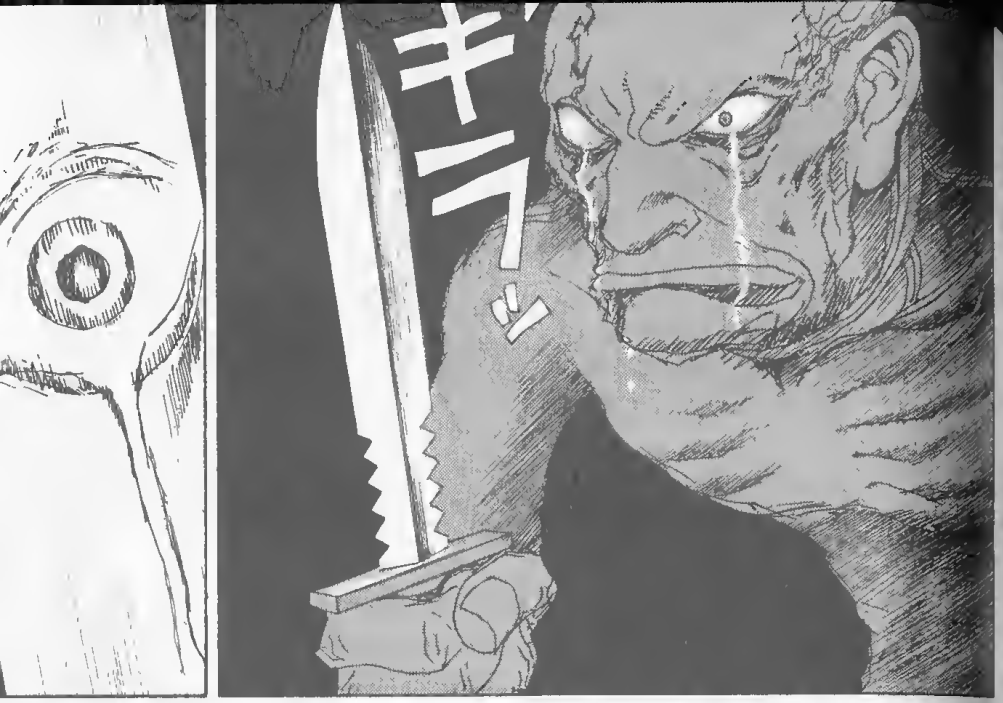
...AND THE ROCKMAN HAS NEVER LED YOU ASTRAY BEFORE, HAS HE?
NEVER, SIR!

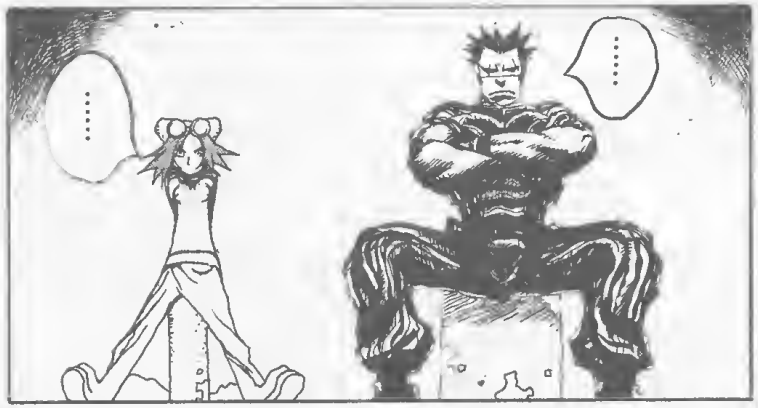

WELL, MAYBE IT IS JUST A LEGEND.
IF IT WAS EASY TO FIND, IT WOULDN'T BE "FORGOTTEN," NOW WOULD IT?
WE'VE BEEN SAILING FOR WEEKS! DOES THIS FORGOTTEN CONTINENT REALLY EXIST?
I POURED MY BLOOD AND SWEAT INTO THIS SEA CHART...
HEY NOW... GIVE ME SOME CREDIT!

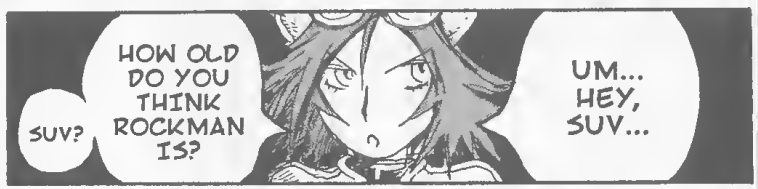
IT'S OUR ISLAND !!
IT'S OUR TREASURE!!


IT'S...

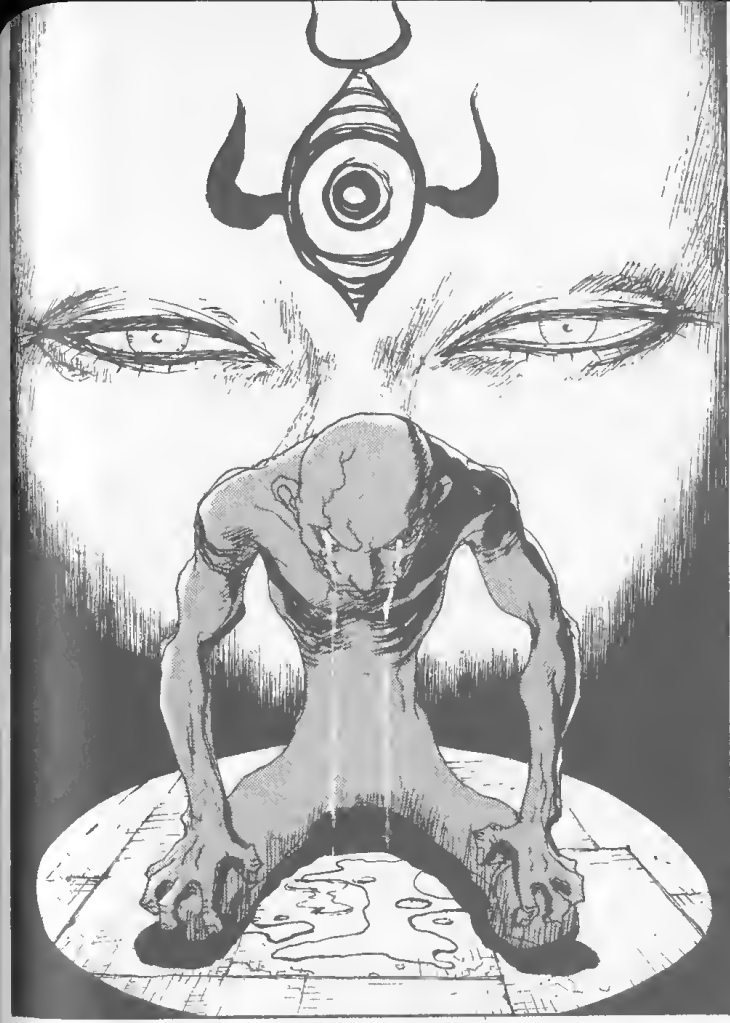

EVERYONE ELSE...!
I'M THE ONLY ONE LEFT...

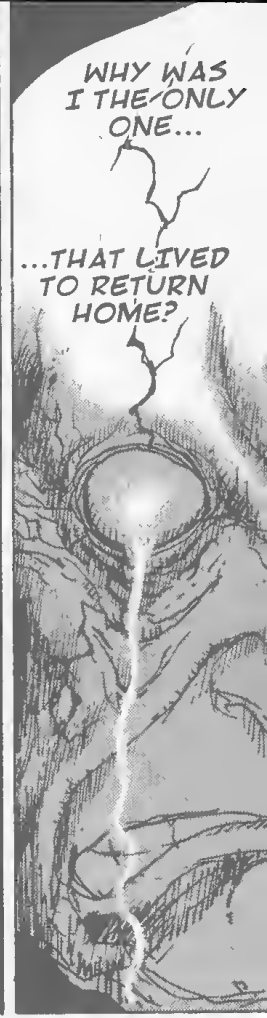





UM... HEY, SUV...
HOW OLD DO YOU THINK ROCKMAN IS?
SUV?

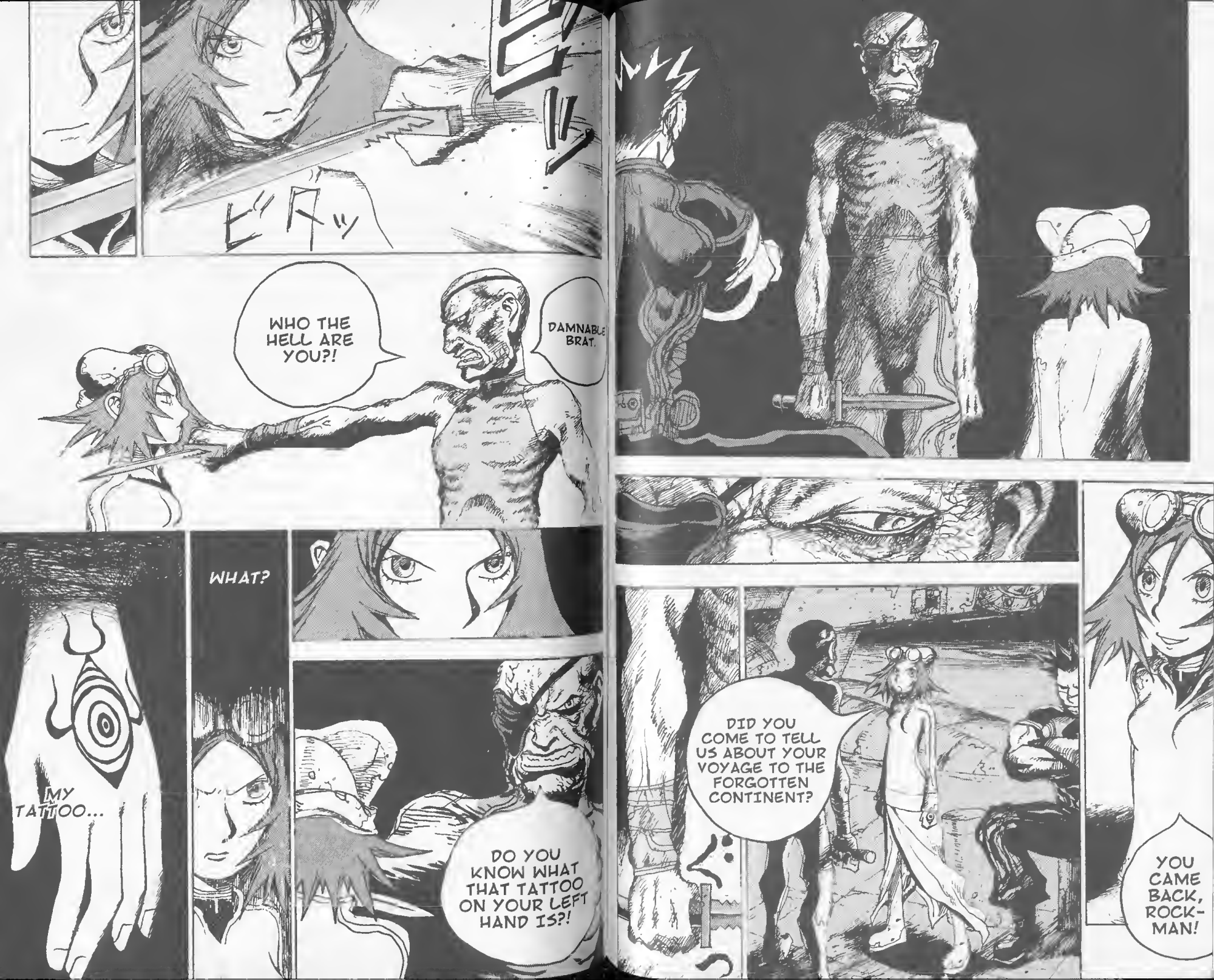
NNNN
NNNN
JEEZ!
HOW CAN HE SLEEP AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!




WHY WAS I THE ONLY ONE...
...THAT LIVED TO RETURN HOME?

Iooo
Iooo

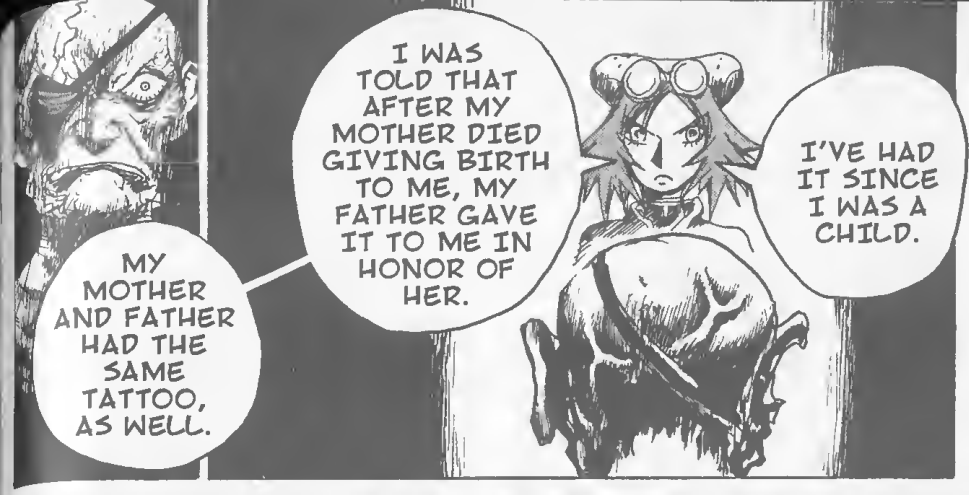
EVERYONE... PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
I TRIED TO FORGET BUT... I JUST SEALED THE MEMORIES INSIDE. I'M A HORRIBLE...
...SHAMEFUL MAN...


WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
DAMNABLE BRAT.
WHAT?
MY TATTOO...
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT TATTOO ON YOUR LEFT HAND IS?!
DID YOU COME TO TELL US ABOUT YOUR VOYAGE TO THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT?
YOU CAME BACK, ROCK-MAN!

THAT MARK...
THE BITCH WHO RUINED MY LIFE!
...IS THE SAME MARK AS GAO'S!
GAO?
MM?
BLINK

NYUM.
DID YOU SAY "GAO"? AS IN THE HEAD OF THE EMPIRE, GAO?
YOU ACTUALLY KNOW THAT EVIL SKANK?

HE'S HERE!
AH! IT'S ROCK-MAN!
WHAT IS IT?
NYUM
WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
HUFF...
HUFF...
YAWN!
WHAT'S A "GAO"?

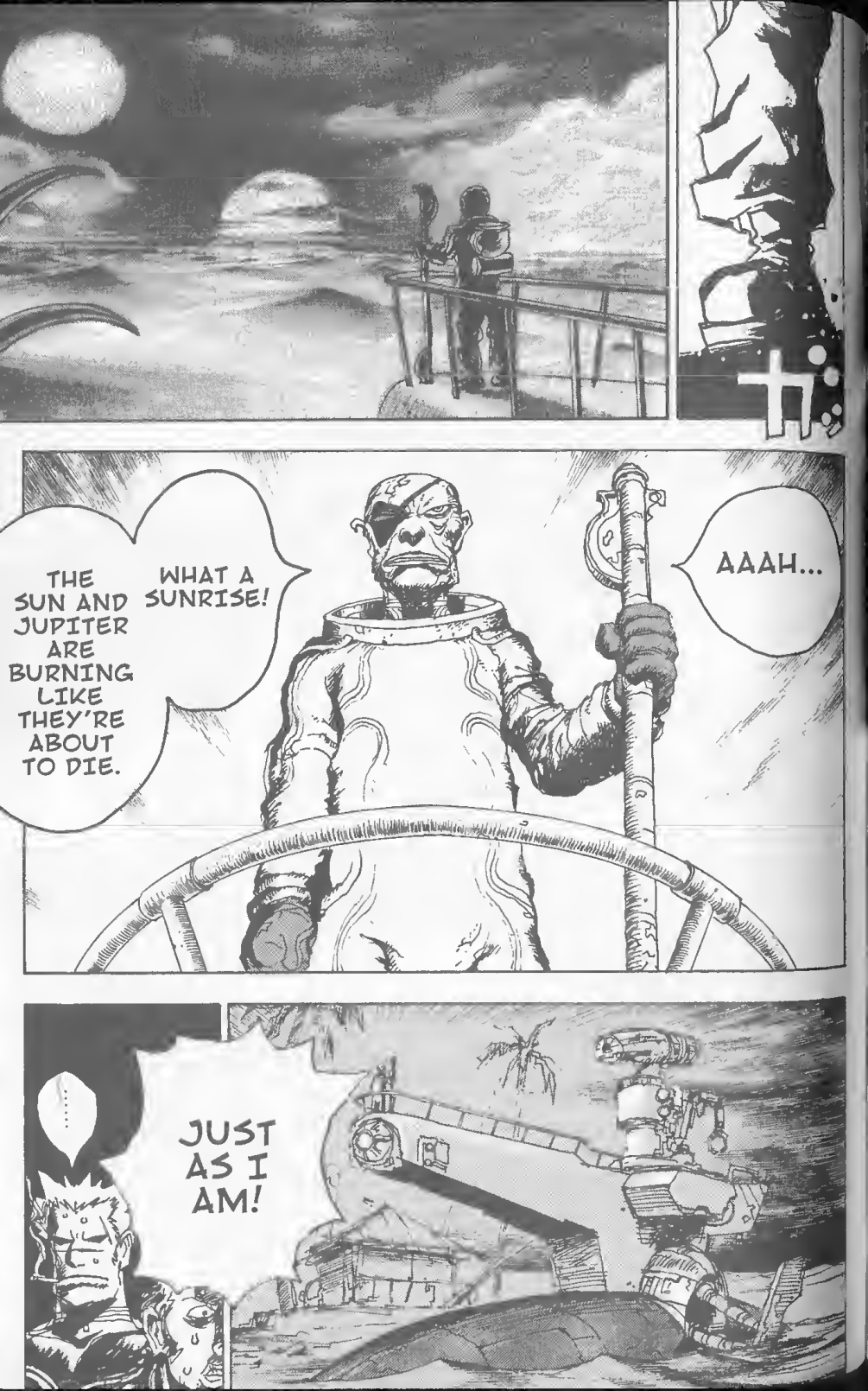

I WAS TOLD THAT AFTER MY MOTHER DIED GIVING BIRTH TO ME, MY FATHER GAVE IT TO ME IN HONOR OF HER.
I'VE HAD IT SINCE I WAS A CHILD.
MY MOTHER AND FATHER HAD THE SAME TATTOO, AS WELL.

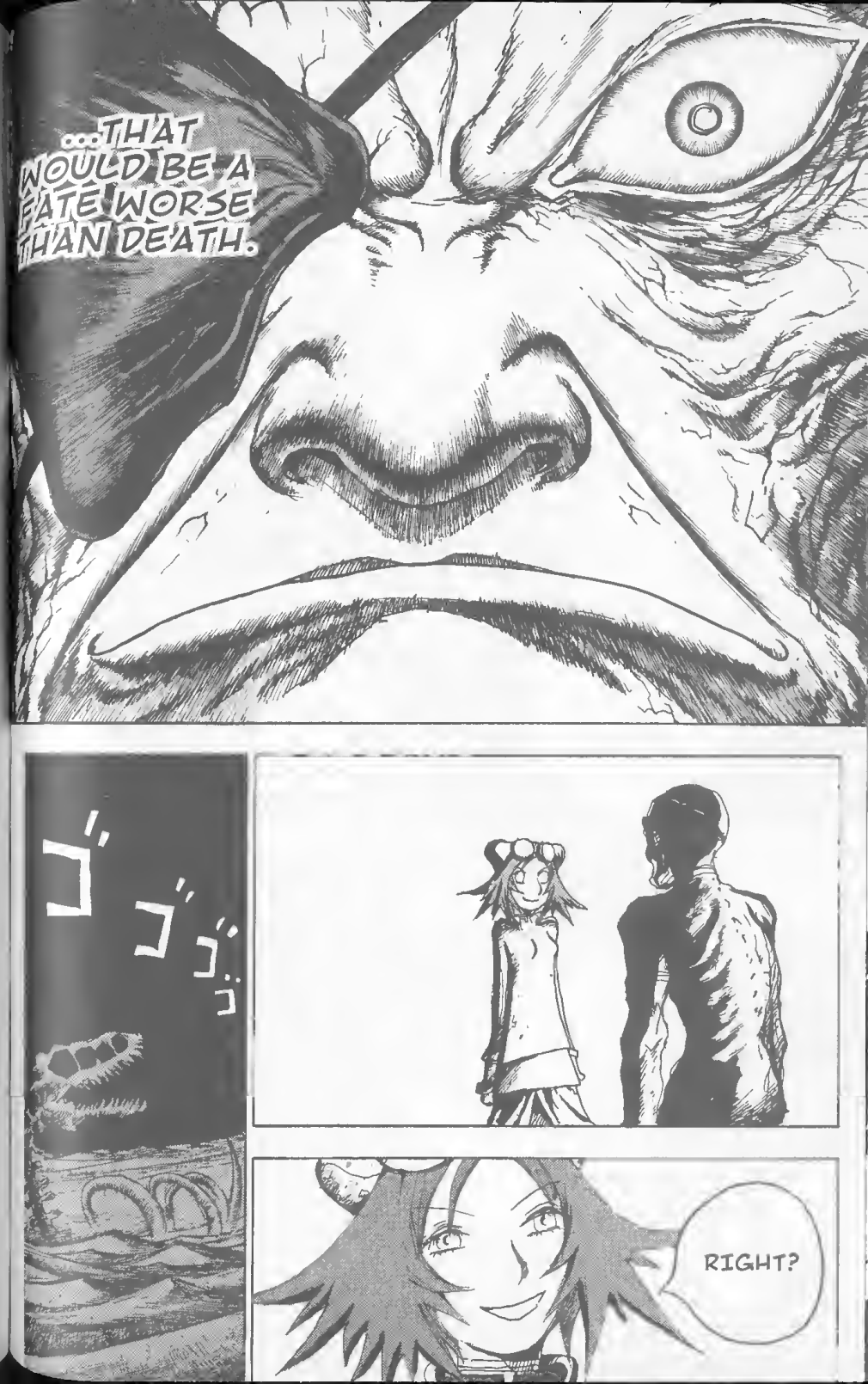
THIS TATTOO IS THE REASON...
...I NEED TO GO TO THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT. TO FIND OUT WHO I AM.

GRR.

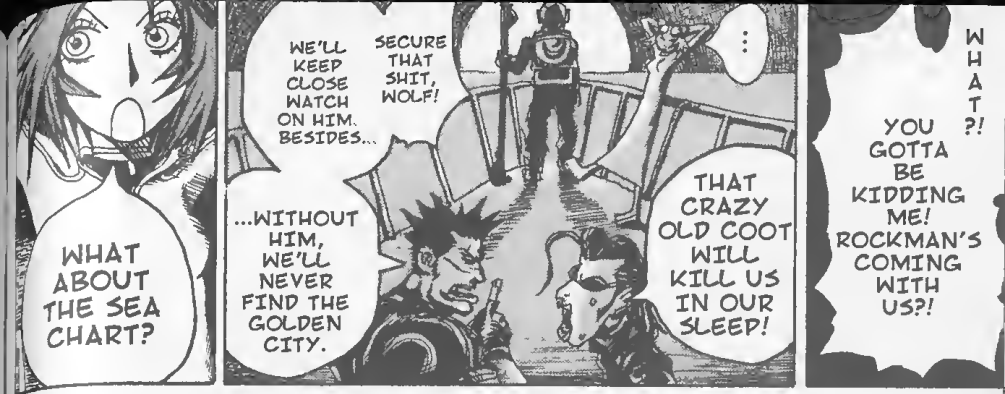
MY DECISION'S BEEN MADE. I MUST FOLLOW THROUGH, NO MATTER WHAT.
I'M GOING!
YOU'D STILL GO?
IF YOU GO, YOU WILL SURELY DIE...
.....
FROM THE SMALLEST SILT FISH, TO THE GREATEST SAND WHALE, DEATH COMES FOR ALL, EVENTUALLY.
TO NOT GO, AND NEVER KNOW WHERE I CAME FROM...

.....
TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW!
WELL NOW... INFOR-MATION'S A TWO-WAY STREET.
DON'T YA THINK?
...THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE EMPIRE?
WAIT... ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT AND GOLDEN CITY ARE...
IT CAN'T BE!
ROCKMAN, WHERE IS IT?
DAMN.


THE SUN AND JUPITER ARE BURNING LIKE THEY'RE ABOUT TO DIE.
WHAT A SUNRISE!
AAAH...
.....
JUST AS I AM!

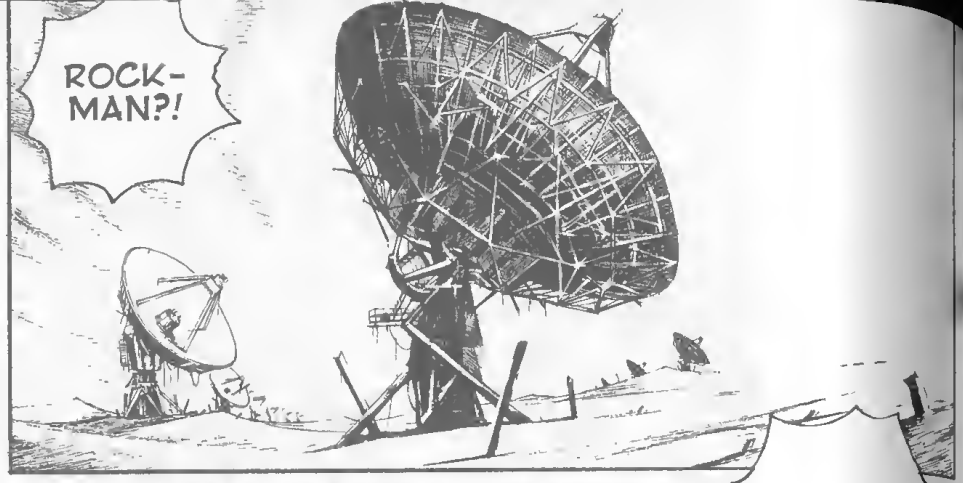

...THAT WOULD BE A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH.
RIGHT?

...EVERY ONE OF YOU, FOLLOW ME!!


WHAT?!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME! ROCKMAN'S COMING WITH US?!
...
THAT CRAZY OLD COOT WILL KILL US IN OUR SLEEP!
SECURE THAT SHIT, WOLF!
WE'LL KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON HIM. BESIDES...
...WITHOUT HIM, WE'LL NEVER FIND THE GOLDEN CITY.
WHAT ABOUT THE SEA CHART?

ゴゴゴ
HUH?!

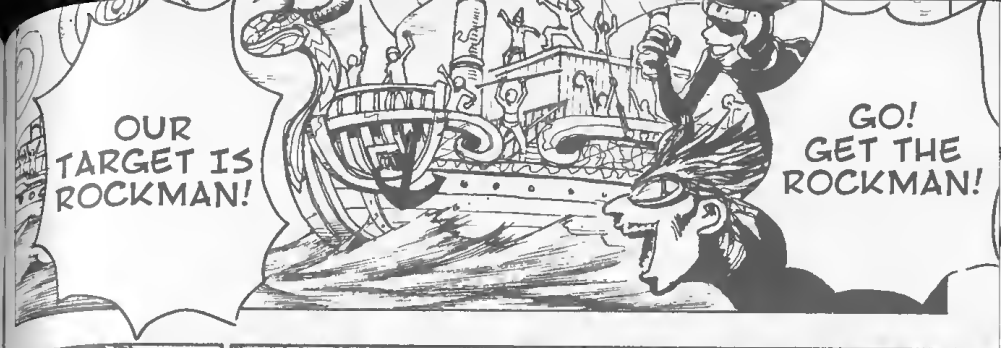
ALL RIGHT, YOU SCURVY DOGS...
THE SEA CHART'S RIGHT IN HERE!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY, ZIZI!



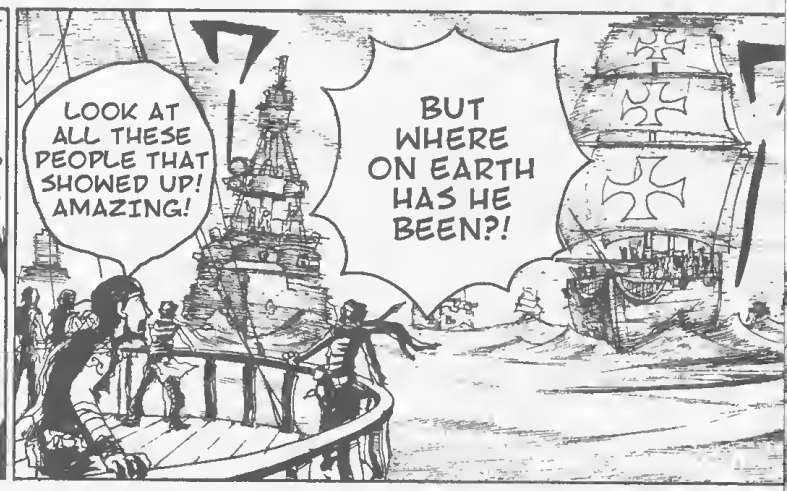
STONE 9 Episode 7 End
ROCKMAN BLUES

EPISODE 8
"GOLD RUSH"

IN OTHER WORDS, MATES... WE CAN STRIKE DIRECTLY AT THE BOSOM OF THE EMPIRE!


OUR TARGET IS ROCKMAN!
GO! GET THE ROCKMAN!

IS THIS EVERY PIRATE IN THE SAKAI?


LOOK AT ALL THESE PEOPLE THAT SHOWED UP! AMAZING!
BUT WHERE ON EARTH HAS HE BEEN?!

HE'LL LEAD US STRAIGHT TO THE EMPIRE'S HEART, HE WILL!
I KNEW THAT GIRL WAS DESTINED FOR BIG THINGS! I KNEW SHE COULD STIR THE ROCKMAN'S SPIRIT AGAIN!

"YOUR ZIZI" ?!
OOPS.

THAT'S MY ZIZI!!
I KNEW MY FAITH IN HER WOULD BE RE-WARDED!

IF THE ROCKMAN IS ON THE MOVE, EVEN THE BLACK CURRENT MAY YET BE CROSSABLE!
AFTER ALL, THE ONE MAN THAT KNOWS WHERE TO FIND THE GOLDEN CITY IS ON THE MOVE AGAIN. THE PROPHECY IS FULFILLED!
CAPTAIN BAN-CHO!!
CA--

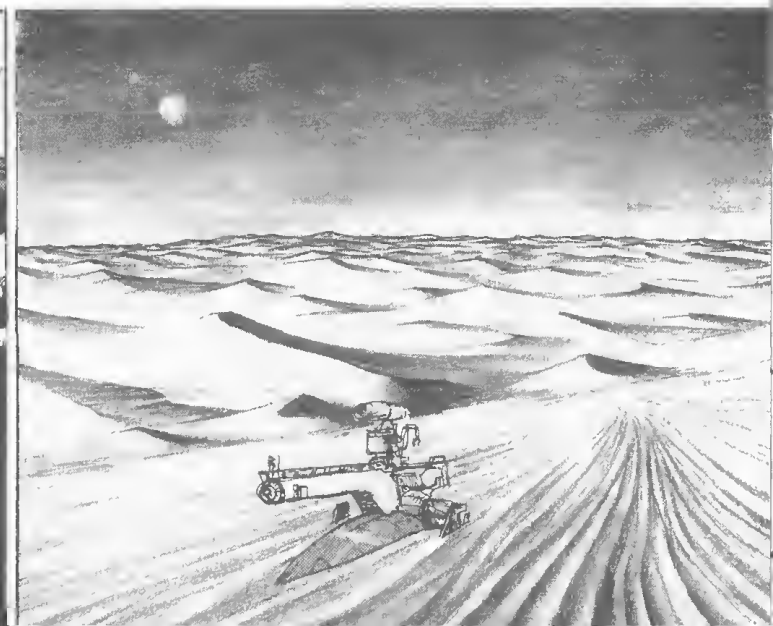
?!
NO, THERE'S FAR MORE THAN THIS, MATE!

TELL HIM WE'D LIKE TO REACH THE GOLDEN CITY SOMETIME THIS CENTURY!
I'M BEGGIN' YA, ZIZI!!
CRAP IN A HAT!
REGARDLESS, WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING BUT WAIT.
ROCKMAN'S THE ONLY ONE THAT KNOWS WHERE TO GO AND HE HASN'T SAID A WORD.
IF I'M GONNA SAY ANYTHING TO HIM, IT'LL BE ABOUT THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT, SUV!
THEY'RE THE SAME PLACE ANYWAY!
WHAT THE HELL IS HE THINKING ?!
HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT ALL WEEK.

WAIT FOR US, ZIZI! WE'RE COMIN'!
SET SAIL FOR ROCK-MAN!
A--
ANYWAY ...

WELL! AT LEAST SHE'S LEADING US STRAIGHT TO ROCKMAN.
SOMEONE BANCHO'S WAY TOO EXCITED ABOUT.
ZIZI? WHO'S THAT?

WE'RE STILL WAITING. I CAN'T STAND ONE MORE SECOND OF THIS!



DAMMIT, OLD MAN!
NOW, CAN WE GET GOIN' BEFORE SENILITY SETS IN?! OR AM I TOO LATE?
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE OLD TO BE HUNTING A SAND WHALE LIKE THAT?!
GET YERSELF KILLED ON YER OWN TIME!
PREFERABLY AFTER YOU LEAD US TO THE GOLDEN CITY! WE'VE BEEN WASTIN' TIME OUT HERE FOR A MONTH! NOW YOU WANNA GO FISHING?
.....
THAT MAN NEEDS TO RELAX MORE.

WE FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH YOU! NICE TO SEE YA AGAIN, ZIZI!

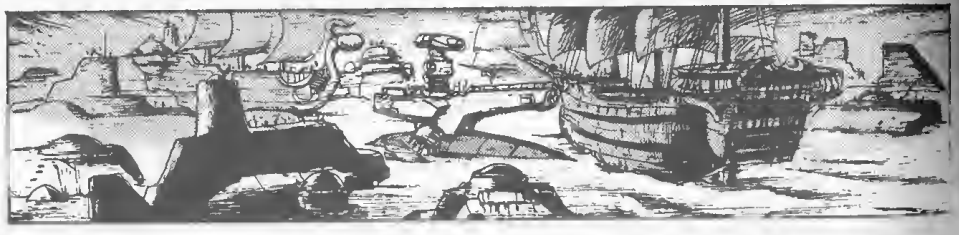
WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME FOR YOU, SUV.
HAVE YOU GOTTEN EVEN UGLIER?
BANCHO ?!
WHAT THE HELL? WHO'S FLEET IS THIS?

...YOU WILL SHUT UP AND DO AS I SAY!
HOW DID A MAN LIKE YOU SURVIVE IN THE SAKAI SO LONG?! IF YOU WANT TO LIVE TO SEE YOUR PRECIOUS CONTINENT...

WHO'S THAT?
HM?
A-HOOOOOY THERE!
YER GOIN' OVER THE SIDE, GRAMPS!
THAT'S IT!!

WAIT FOR US!
AH.

WELL ?!
WHERE'S ROCKMAN?!



I CAME HERE TO MEET ROCK-MAN.
I TOLD YOU ALREADY, WE'RE NOT COMRADES.
KKRR...
WHO ARE THESE GOONS?
BANCHO ...
THEY'RE MY COMRADES, SWORN TO BATTLE AGAINST THE EMPIRE ZIZI!

ゴゴゴ...
.....
CAP'N... I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

ACCORDING TO THE LEGEND, ROCKMAN LED SIX OTHER PEOPLE TO THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT, YET ONLY HE LIVED TO TELL OF IT.
SO WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED OUT THERE?
THE MOST IMPORTANT QUALITY FOR A SAILOR ON THE SAKAI IS LOYALTY TO ONE'S COMRADES.
THERE'S SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT AT STAKE!
...I CAN'T HAVE ANYONE AT MY BACK WHO'LL CUT AND RUN!
IF WE'RE GOING TO TAKE THE BATTLE TO THE EMPIRE... AND WIN...

THIS GUY IS ANCIENT!
YOU'RE KIDDING ME. THIS OLD GEEZER CAN'T BE HIM!
THIS IS... THIS IS ROCKMAN?
TO GET TO THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT, YOU HAVE TO CROSS THE BLACK CURRENT, RIGHT?
FOR STARTERS, SHOW US THE SECRET TECHNIQUE TO CROSSING THE BLACK CURRENT.
EH, ROCKY?
WAIT JUST A MINUTE.
?!
HEY, OLD MAN!
SHOW US SOME EVIDENCE THAT YOU'RE THE SURVIVOR OF THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT!
AND THEN I'LL BELIEVE THAT YOU'RE ROCKMAN!

...YOU COULD FEAST ON THE HEART OF THE EMPIRE!
IF YOU'D HUNT TOGETHER, AS THE WHALES DO...
YOU FIGHT LIKE SILT SHARKS OVER SCRAPS OF ROTTEN MEAT!

I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.
YOU'VE GOT SOME SPUNK, KID.

...ARE YOU WITH ME?
WELL THEN...

WH-WH-WH...?!
THIS IS YOUR MIGHTY REBEL FLEET, BANCHO? EVERYONE'S JUST OUT FOR THEMSELVES!

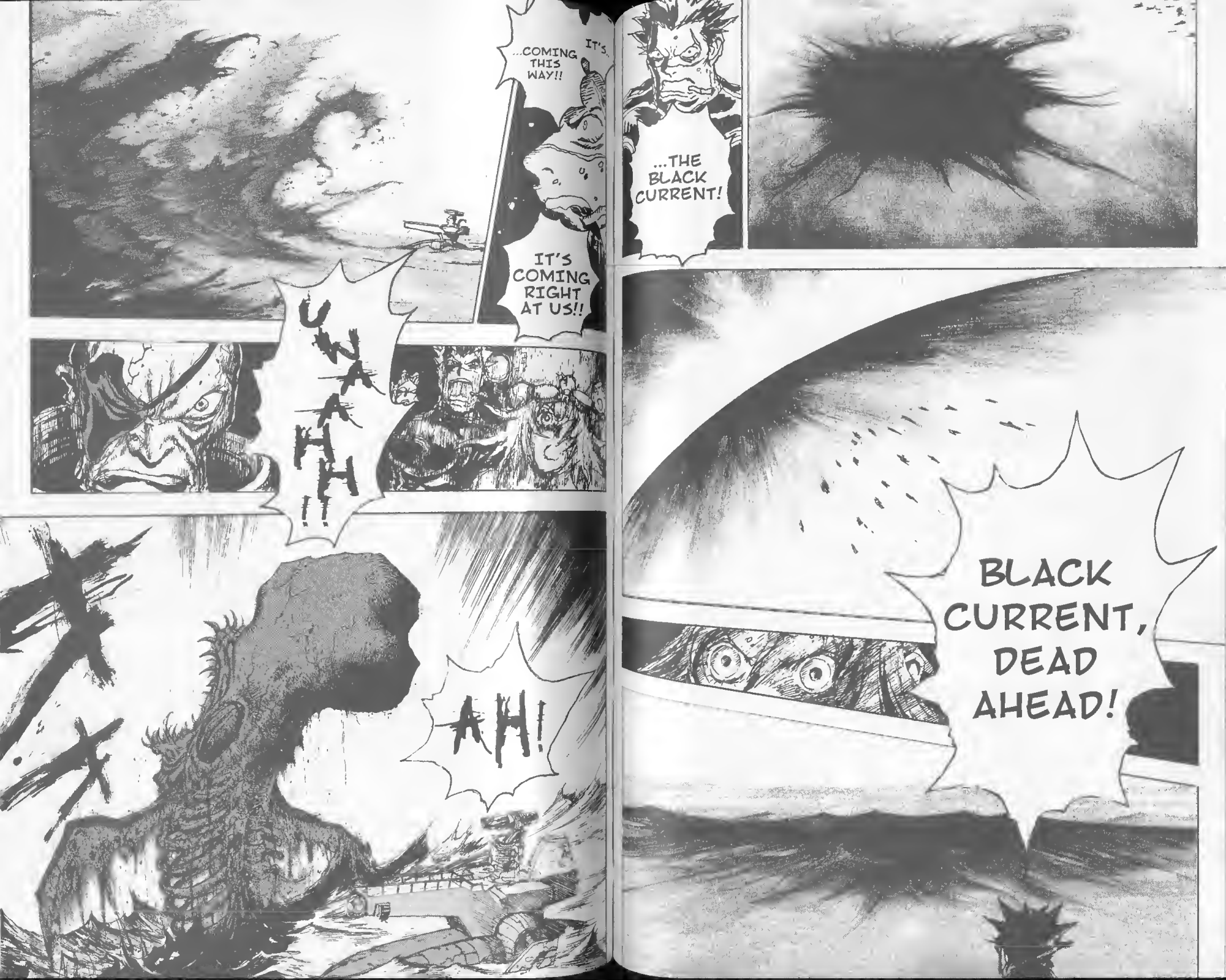
...HOW CAN YOU EXPECT TO STAND FIRM WHEN THE SHOOTING STARTS?
ZIZI...
THIS BICKERING IS POINTLESS!
IF YOUR FLEET IS ALREADY THIS DIVIDED...

YOUR OLD MAN HAS WAITED FOR THIS DAY! WAITED FOR THIS DAY SO VERY LONG!
I'M PROUD O' YA, SUV!
I'M NOT A PIRATE! I'M A MERCHANT!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, PAPA!
AH... STILL TALKING NONSENSE, I SEE!
I'M GONNA CASH IN ON THE TREASURE AT GOLDEN CITY!
IS THIS THE DAY YOU'LL FINALLY BECOME A PIRATE, AND JOIN ME IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE EMPIRE?
ホー
DON'T YOU EVER WEAR A SHIRT?
YEAH, YEAH! I'VE HEARD THAT OLD CHESTNUT!
BUT PURSUE A RIGHTEOUS CAUSE...AND THE REWARDS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU!
CHASING AFTER RICHES IS LIKE CHASING THE WIND, BOY!
SUV'S...
...PAPA?

LONG LIVE FREEDOM!!
DOWN WITH THE EMPIRE!!
HUH ?!
あ
あ
IT'S AN EMPIRE CRUISER!
OH, MY GOD !
W-WAIT A MINUTE... IT'S...DIFFERENT...
AH!
HEY THERE. BEEN A LONG TIME... SON!
SON?
WHO'S HE TALKING ABOUT?

AAAAAHHH!!!!
GYAAAAH!!!
AAAAA!
N...
NO WAY...
TH—THAT'S...
OH!

SO DON'T MIND IF--
HUH?
YOU GUYS CAN FIGHT ALL YOU WANT! JUST LEAVE THE TREASURE TO US!
YOU CAN'T CROSS ALONE!
ASS-HOLES!
LATER, SUCKAS!
FOOLS.
EVEN AN IDIOT CAN SEE THAT!
...THAT MEANS THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT AND THE GOLDEN CITY ARE JUST AHEAD!
IF ROCKMAN'S HERE...


...COMING THIS WAY!!
IT'S
IT'S COMING RIGHT AT US!!
...THE BLACK CURRENT!
UWAAHH!!
AH!
BLACK CURRENT, DEAD AHEAD!

SAIL THROUGH THE PATH!!
A PATH...
...THEN COME NO FURTHER!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY METHODS ...
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY WE CAN CROSS!
THE BLACK CURRENT REVELS IN THE STENCH OF DEATH!
KEEP UP WITH ROCKMAN'S SHIP!
I'LL TAKE THE REAR! MOVE IT!
BREAK THROUGH FAST!
DRIVE FULL SPEED INTO THE CENTER OF THE BLACK CURRENT!
NOW!
UMPH!
GRR-MPH!
THE BLACK CURRENT IS DEVOUR-ING THE WHALES!
WHAT THE...?
MY GOD!!
OUR LIVES DEPEND ON YOUR SWIFTNESS, MEN!
DON'T HOLD BACK! WE HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE!!

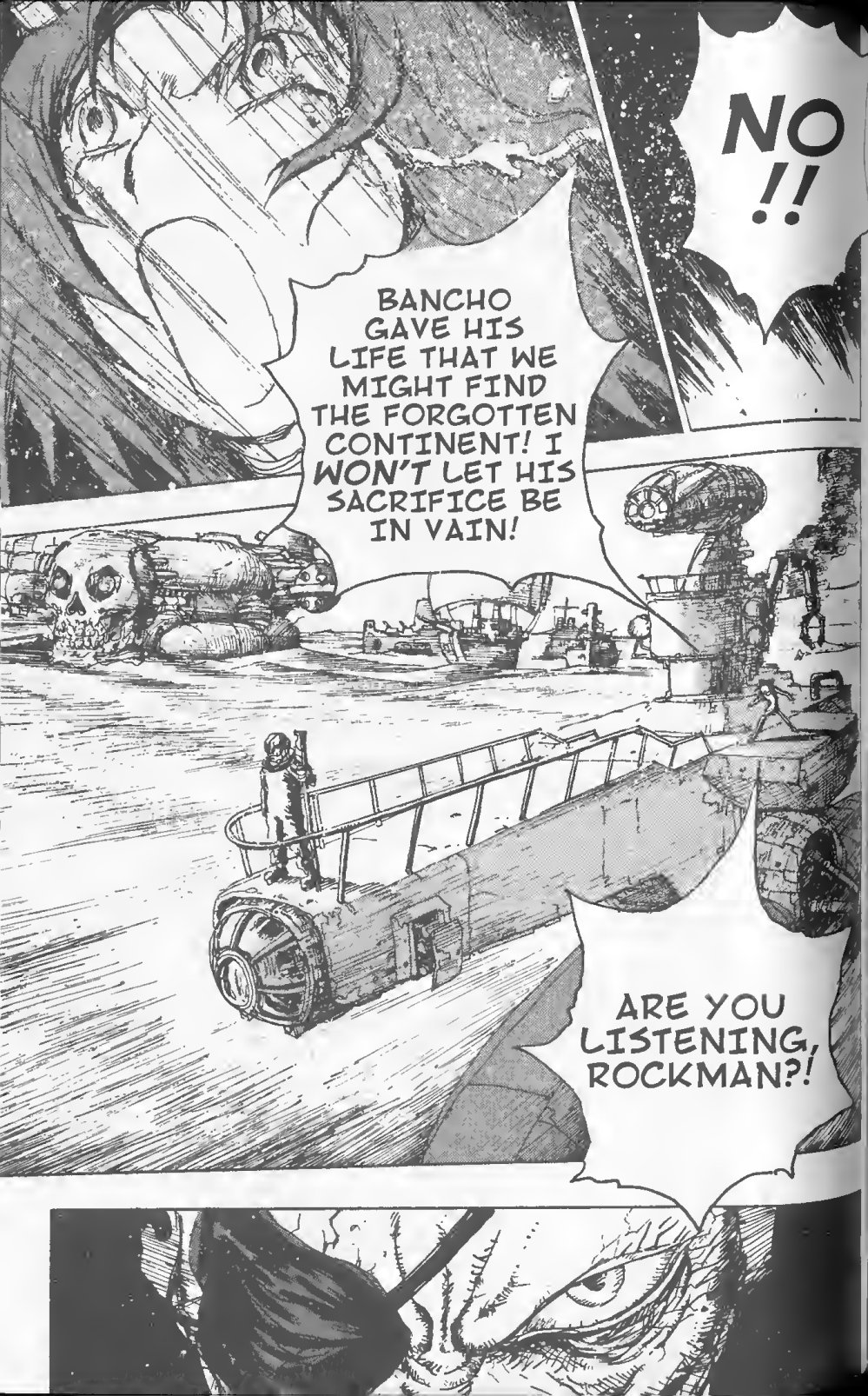
THE BLACK CURRENT'S GOING FOR BANCHO'S SHIP!!
NO!
ZIZI, NO!
I'M COMING FOR YOU!
BANCHO!
YOU STILL HAVE A DESTINY TO FULFILL, GIRL!
YOU DAMN FOOL! STAY BACK!!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WE'LL BE CUT OFF!
SHIT! THE PATH'S SHRINKING FAST!
BANCHO!
COME ON!!
COME ON!
DON'T GIVE UP! WE CAN STILL MAKE IT!
BANCHO !!
WHAT ?!
WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING?! BANCHO'S IN TROUBLE!!
WE'RE ALMOST HOME FREE!!
UAAH !!
JUST A LITTLE MORE AND WE'LL BE FREE OF THE BLACK CURRENT!!

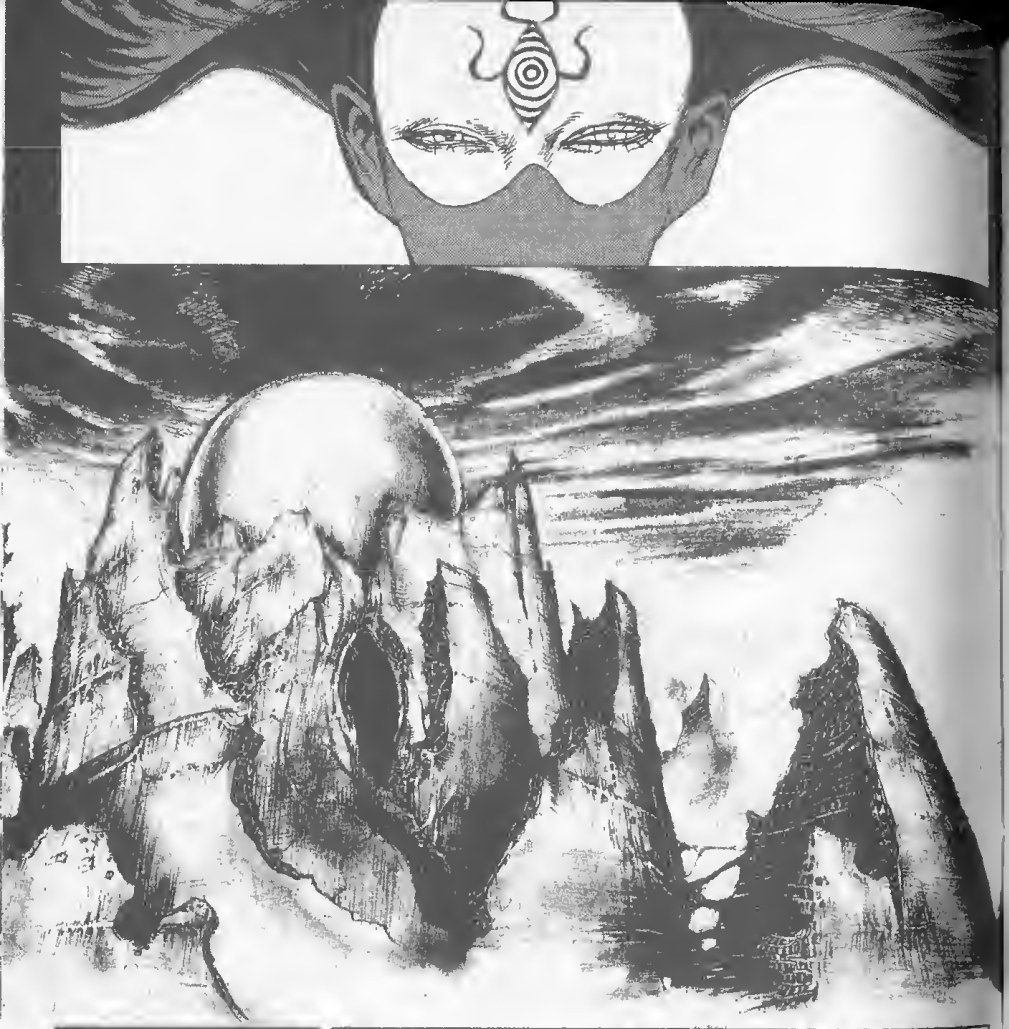
WHEREVER I BATTLE... WHEREVER I MIGHT DIE... IT'S UP TO ME!!
I'VE... BEEN FREE... MY WHOLE LIFE...
BANCHO!
IT WAS A LITTLE SOON, THOUGH...
THAT'S TOO BAD...

ZIZI! YOU HEARD THE MAN! YOU CAN'T SAVE HIM!
LET ME GO, SUV!!
BA--
BANCHO !!

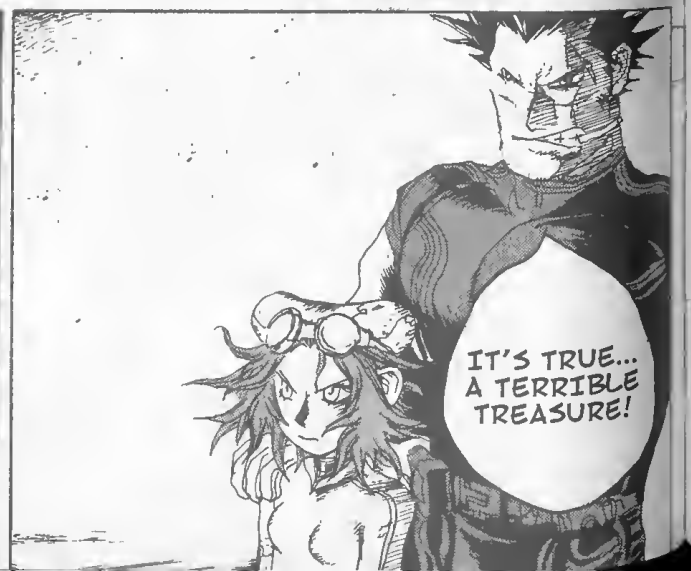
LIVE FREE!
KEEP FIGHTING, ZIZI!
I LOVE YOU!
CLICK


NO!!
BANCHO GAVE HIS LIFE THAT WE MIGHT FIND THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT! I WON'T LET HIS SACRIFICE BE IN VAIN!
ARE YOU LISTENING, ROCKMAN?!

NO...
TSK...
SHIT...
DAMMIT...

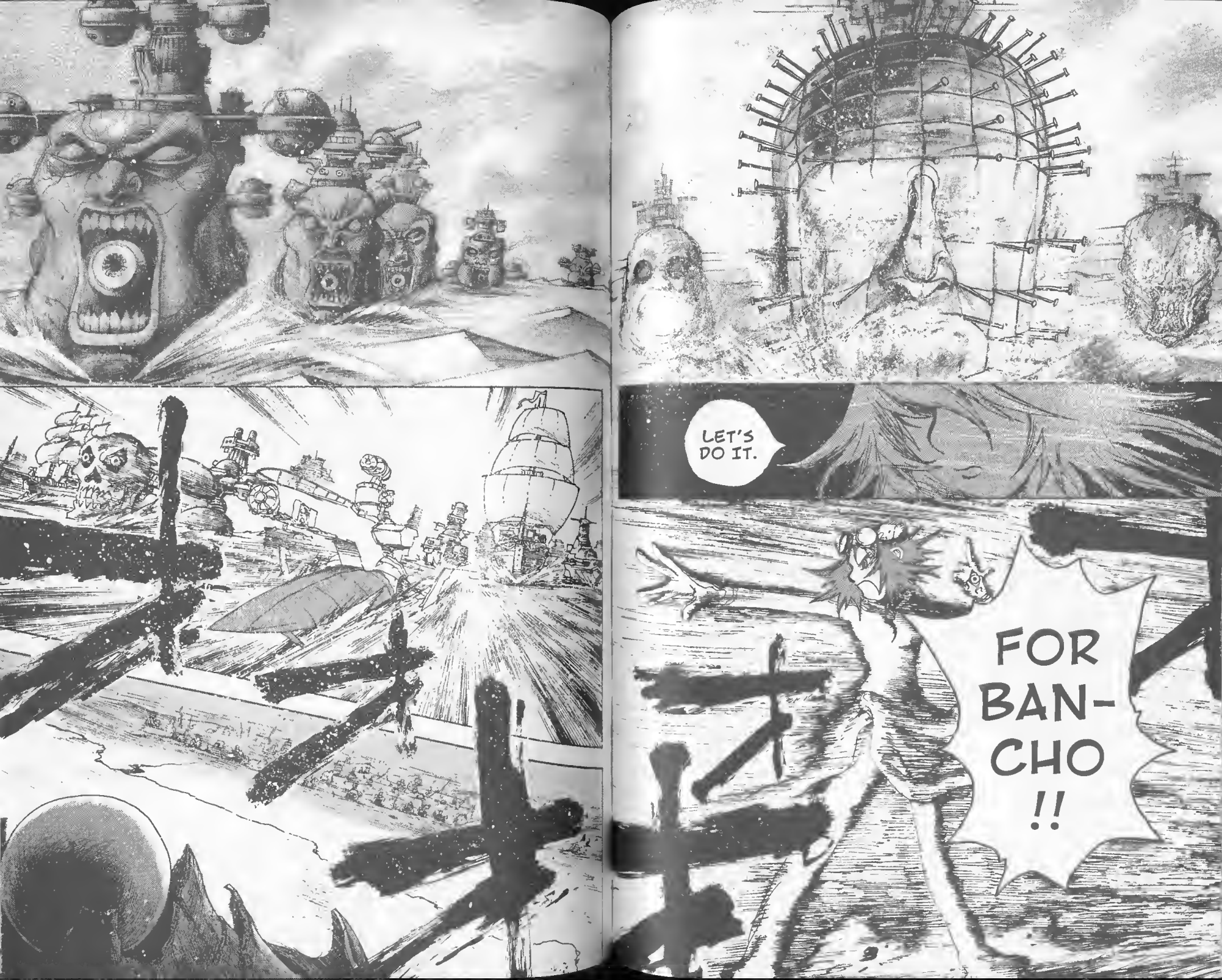


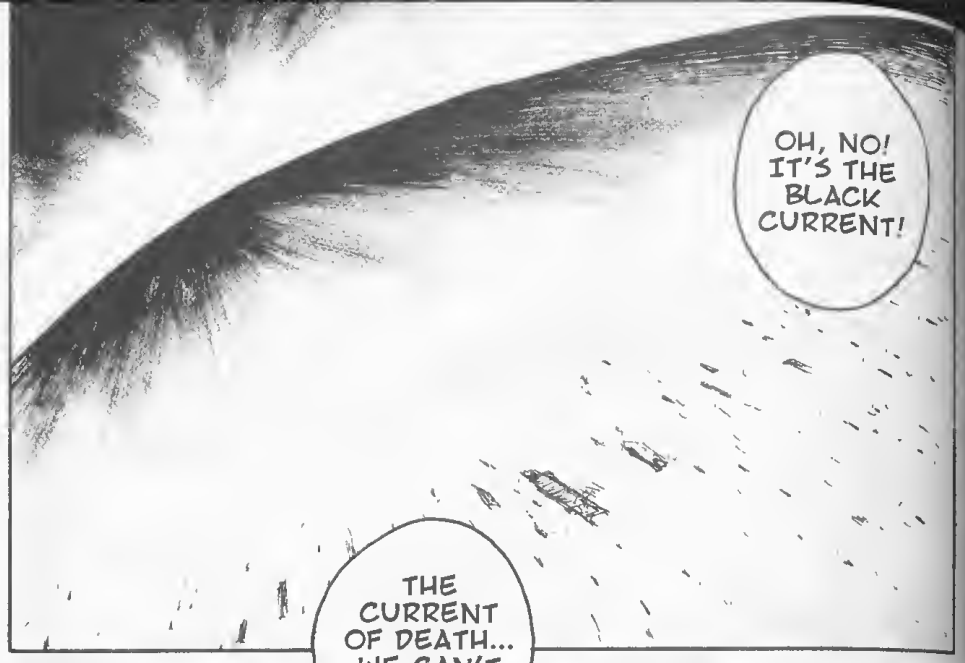
THE HEART OF THE EMPIRE!

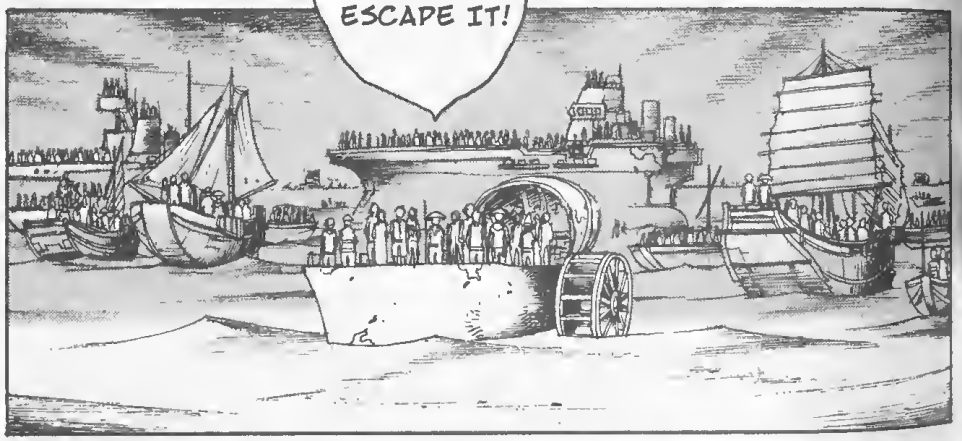

IT'S TRUE... A TERRIBLE TREASURE!

YES.

IS THAT...
...THE CONTI-NENT?

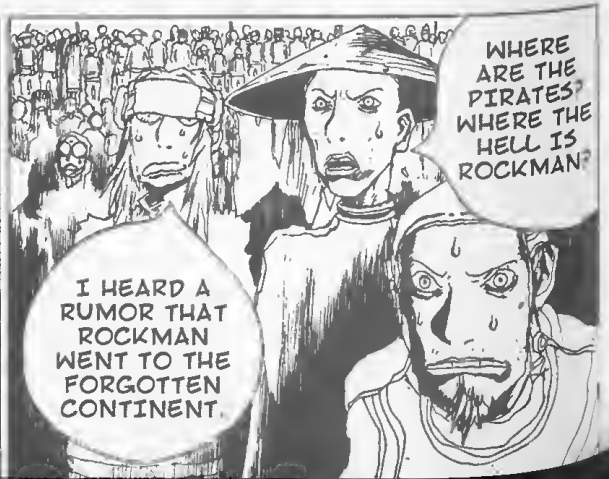

LET'S DO IT.
FOR BAN-CHO !!


OH, NO! IT'S THE BLACK CURRENT!


THE CURRENT OF DEATH... WE CAN'T ESCAPE IT!

HE'S NOWHERE TO BE FOUND...

IT WAS A LIE... IT HAD TO BE...


I HEARD A RUMOR THAT ROCKMAN WENT TO THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT.
WHERE ARE THE PIRATES? WHERE THE HELL IS ROCKMAN?

HMM...
SO YOU'VE FINALLY RETURNED HOME?
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU FOR SO LONG...

THE FLEDGLING RETURNS TO THE NEST...
HOW PRECIOUS.

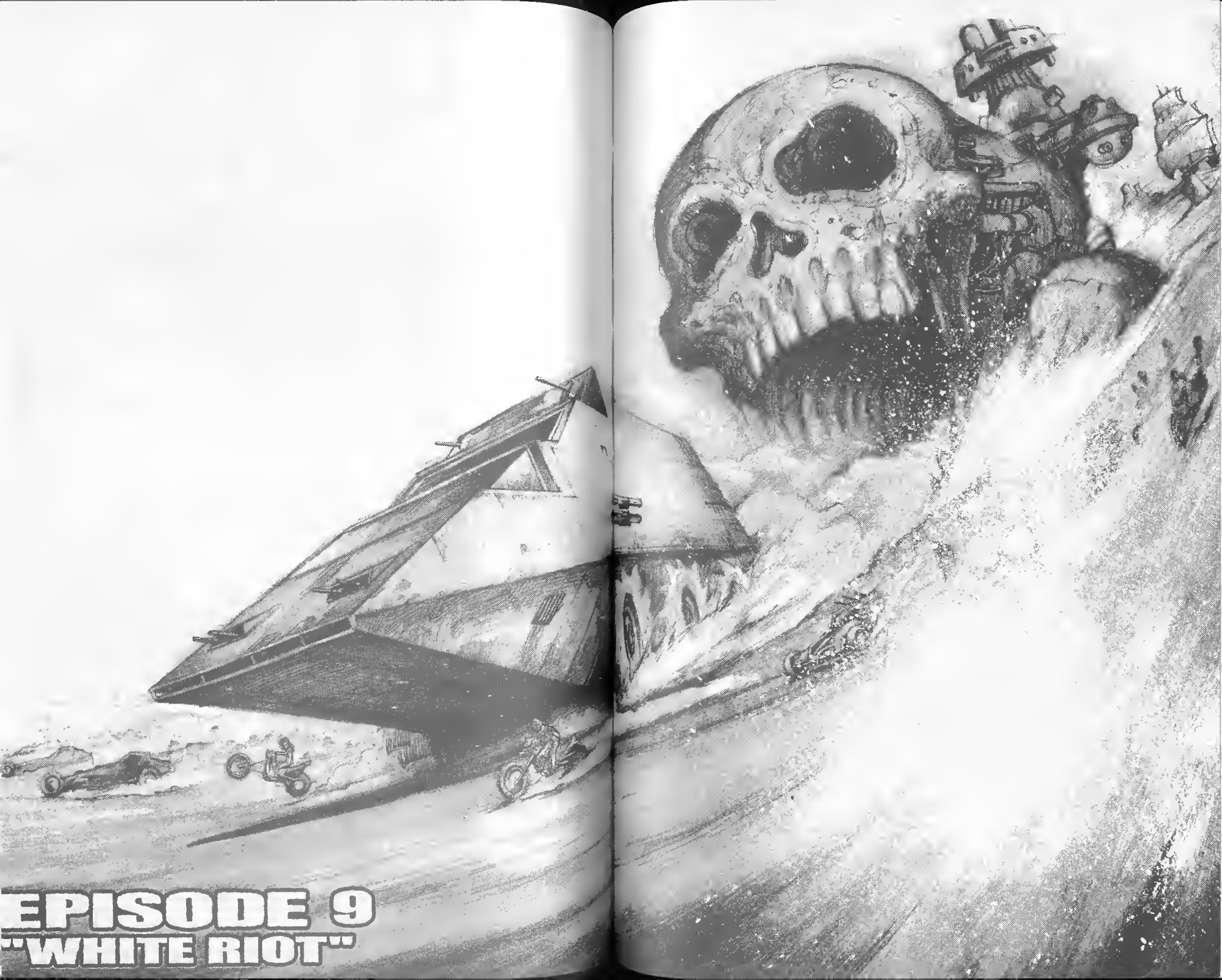
NENE! IT'S GOING TO GET DANGEROUS FROM HERE ON OUT!
ZIZI ...
WHAT ?
SUV! TAKE CARE OF HER!

EVEN NOW HE TRAVELS TO THE EMPIRE'S HEAD-QUARTERS!
THE RUMORS ARE TRUE. ROCKMAN HAS TRAVERSED THE BLACK CURRENT.

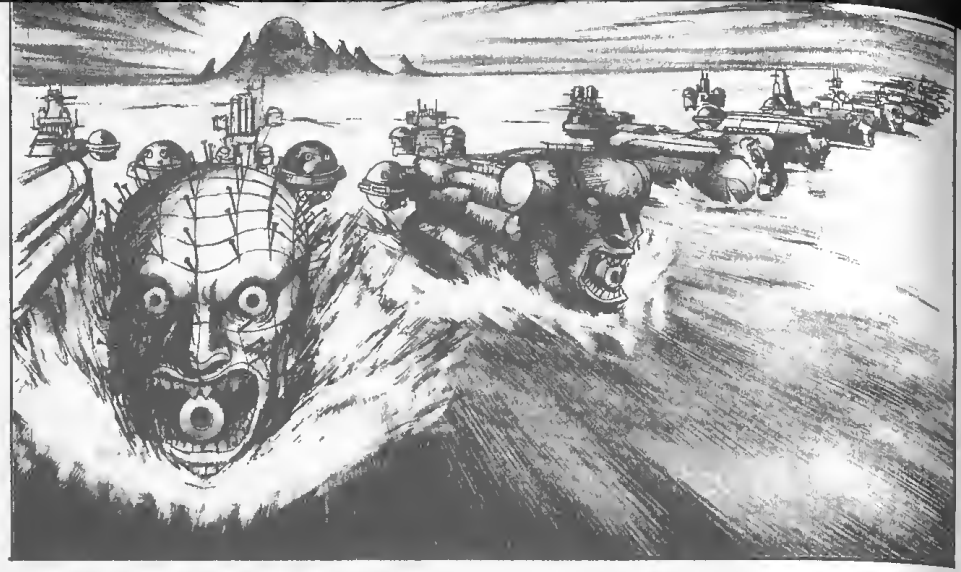
#7
#7

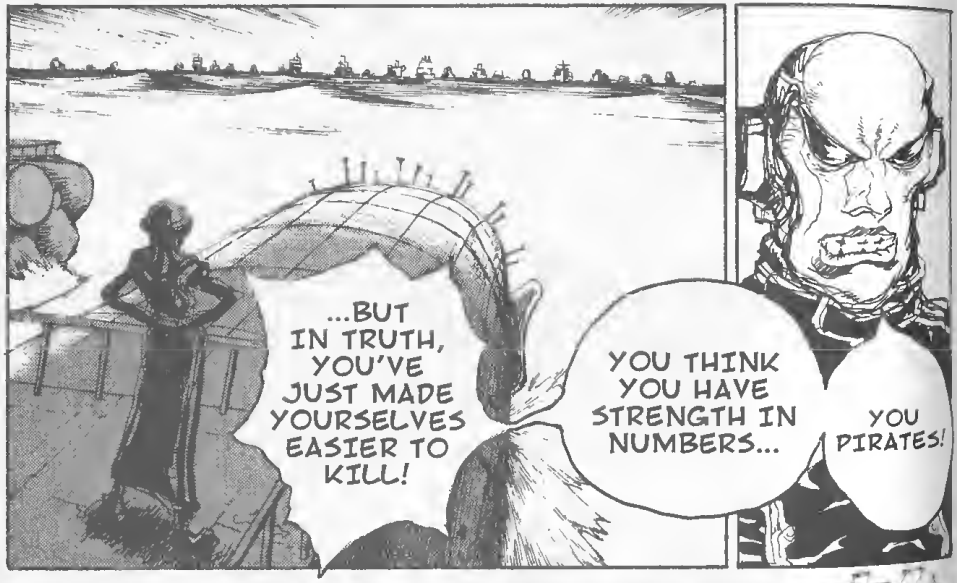
SHE'S LEFT US BEHIND AGAIN!
THAT IDIOT GIRL!

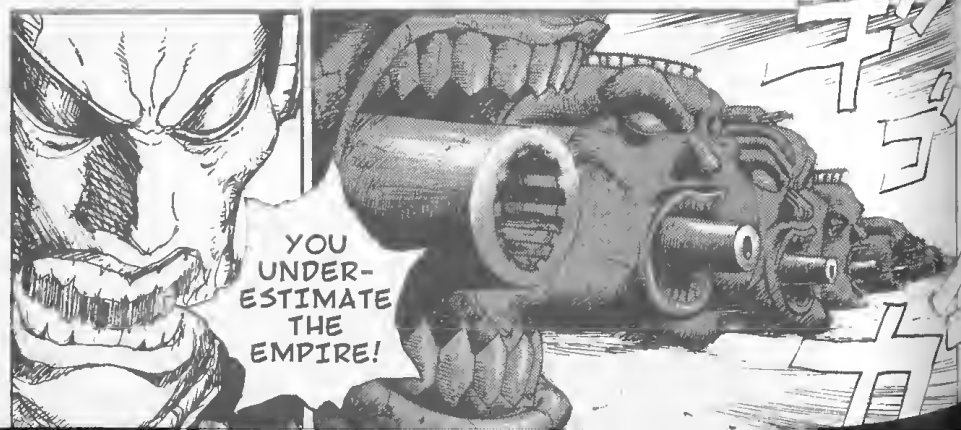
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO US, ZIZI!!



EPISODE 9
"WHITE RIOT"




...BUT IN TRUTH, YOU'VE JUST MADE YOURSELVES EASIER TO KILL!
YOU THINK YOU HAVE STRENGTH IN NUMBERS...
YOU PIRATES!


YOU UNDER-ESTIMATE THE EMPIRE!

YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT TO STOP ME!
BASTARDS !!
FULL SPEED AHEAD!
GOOD JOB, FIRST-MATE!
.....
THAT BRAT...
THAT...

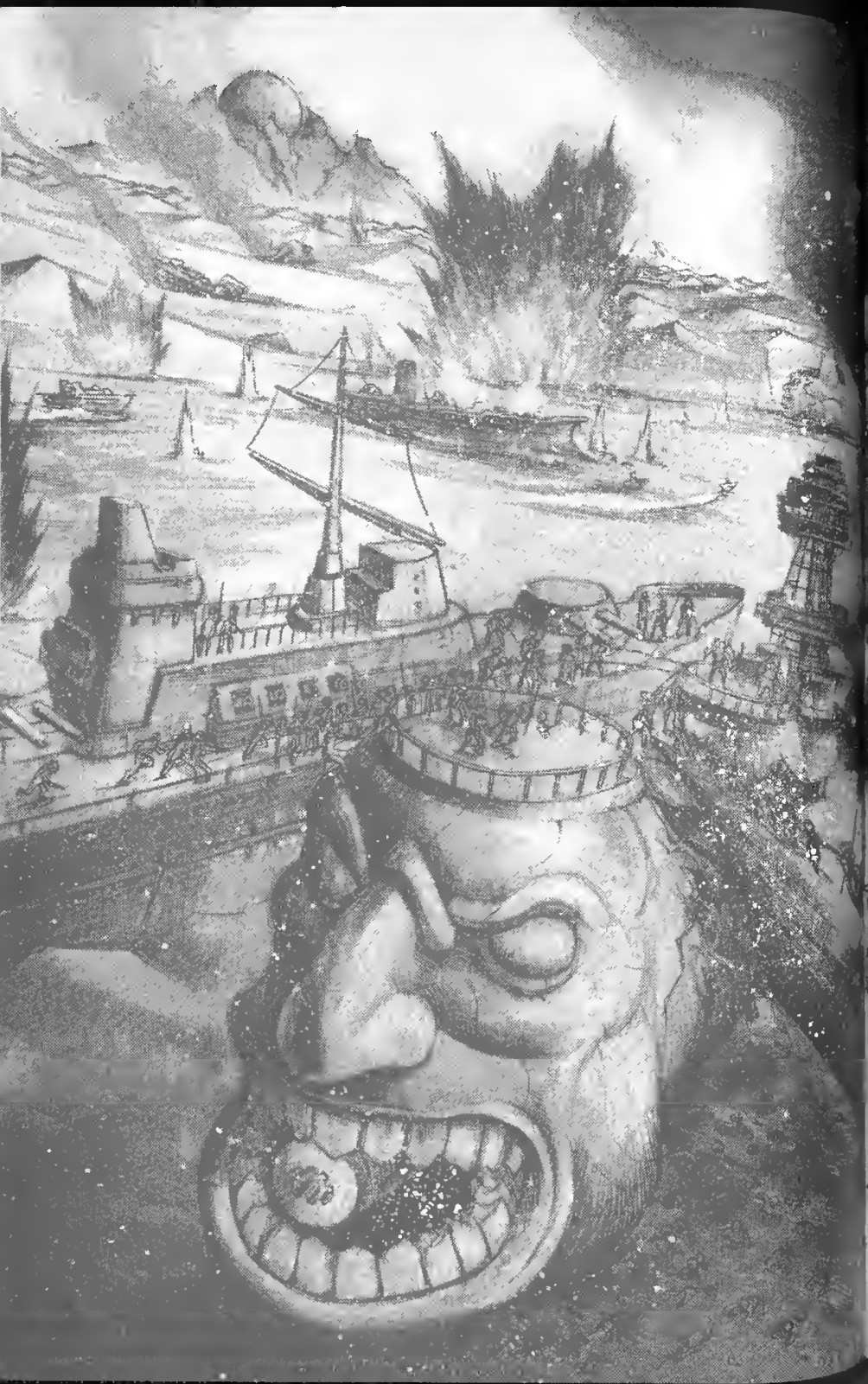
FIRE ALL DEEP-THROAT CANNONS!
WIPE OUT THE PIRATE SCUM IN ONE FELL SWOOP!!
AA AA HH!!

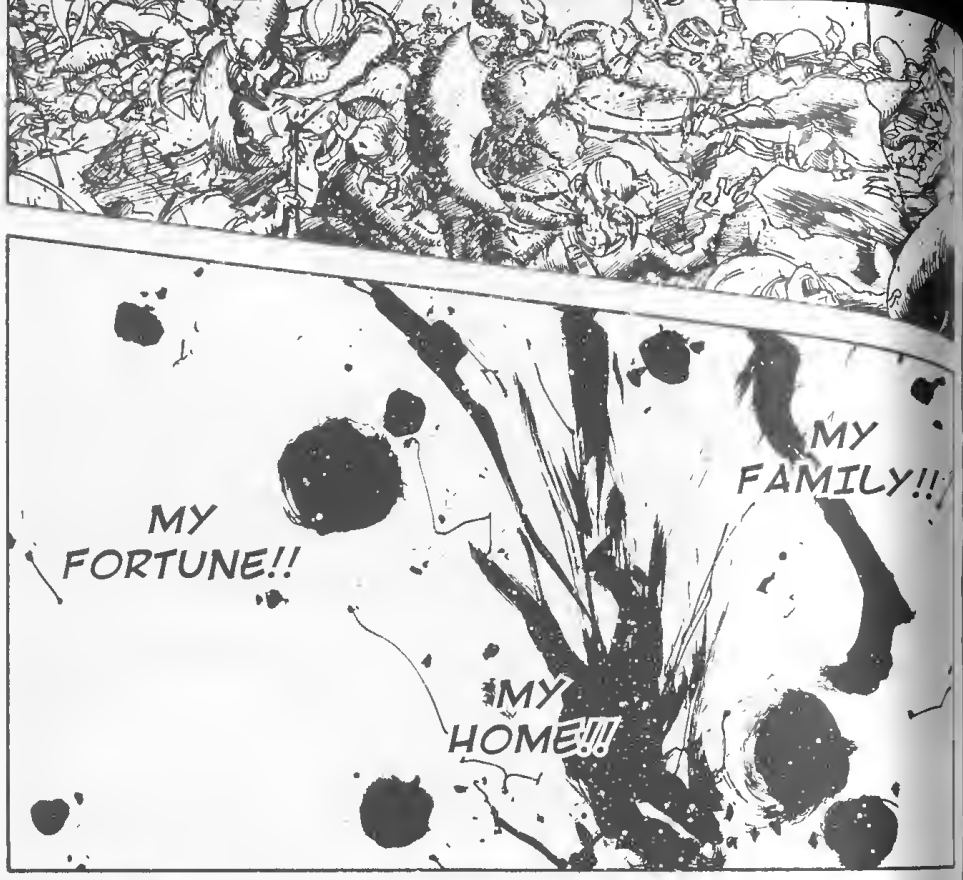
うおおお
THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR BUT FEAR ITSELF! AND TODAY IS AS GOOD A DAY AS ANY TO DIE!
FOR BANCHO!
THAT...
THAT OLD MAN'S INSANE!
SOLDIERS! TO THE FRONT!

THAT ZIZI!
SHE'S GONNA MAKE ONE HELLUVA PIRATE!
HA! IS THAT THE BEST THE EMPIRE HAS TO OFFER?!

GO, ZIZI!
ALL SHIPS, FOLLOW ZIZI'S LEAD!
うお
BWA HA HA HA HA!!

FEAR NOT, MY SON!
PA!
PAPA! YOU TRYING TO KILL YOURSELF?!

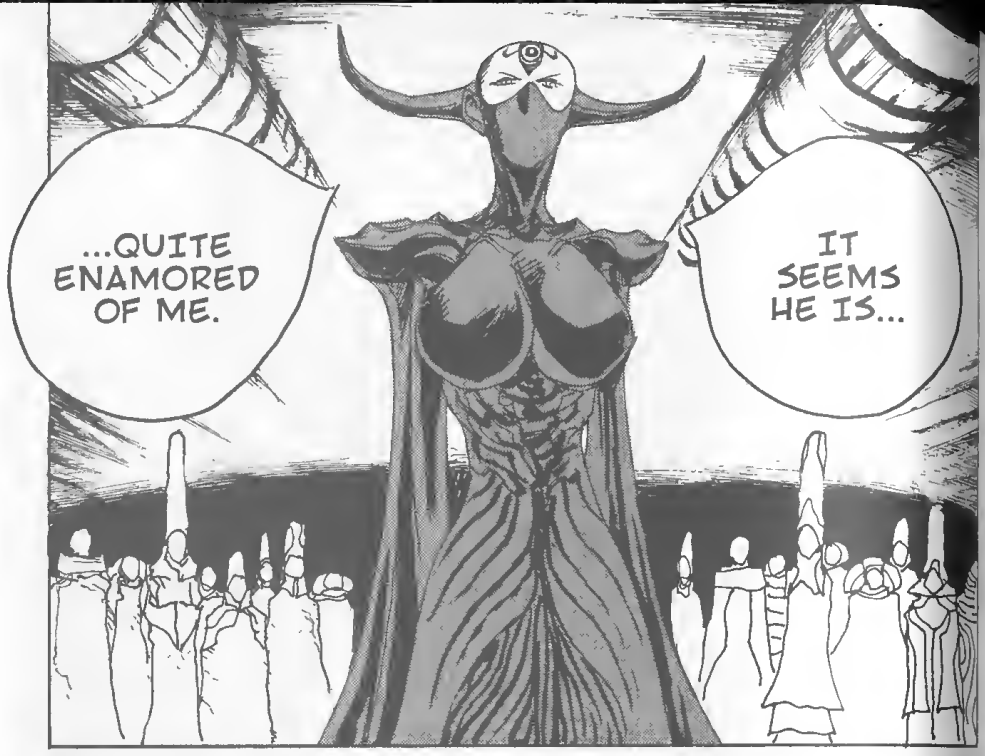



MY FAMILY!!
MY FORTUNE!!
MY HOME!!

WE MAY DIE TODAY... BUT WE'LL NEVER AGAIN LIVE ON OUR KNEES!!

YOU TOOK AWAY MY LOVER!!
THE EMPIRE'S REIGN OF TERROR ENDS HERE!

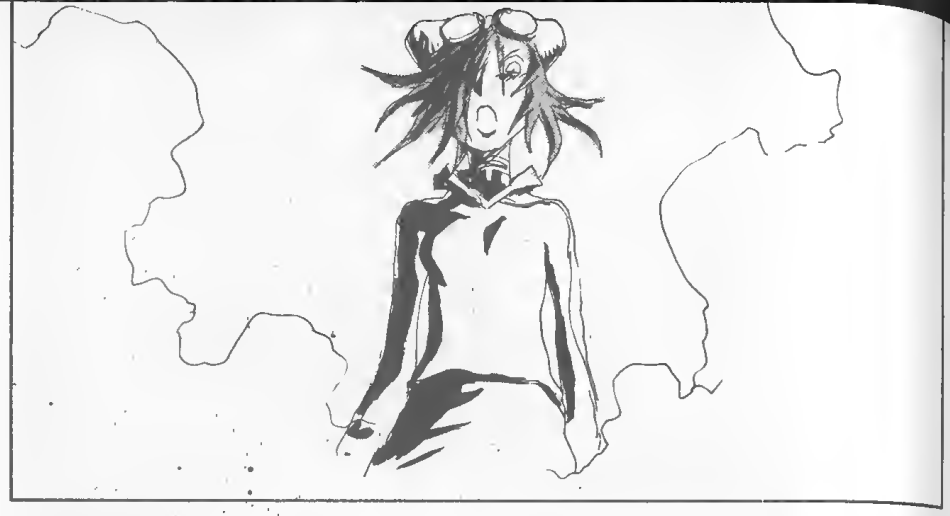
YOU TOOK AWAY MY ALLIES!!
YOU TOOK AWAY MY FRIENDS!!


...QUITE ENAMORED OF ME.
IT SEEMS HE IS...

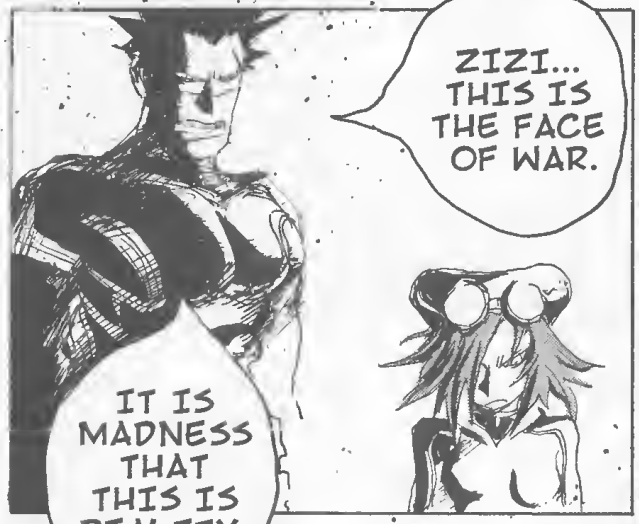
COME TO ME, MY ROCKMAN.

SO...ONCE AGAIN HE HAS CROSSED THE BLACK CURRENT AND RETURNED TO ME.

AM I THAT UNFOR-GETTABLE?



GRGGHH...


ZIZI... THIS IS THE FACE OF WAR.
IT IS MADNESS THAT THIS IS REALITY.

GRGGHH...

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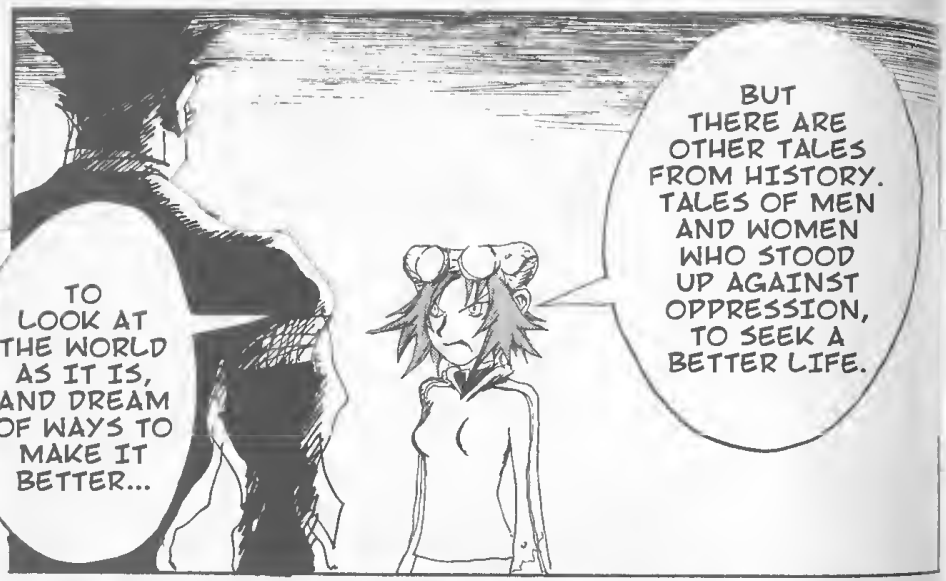
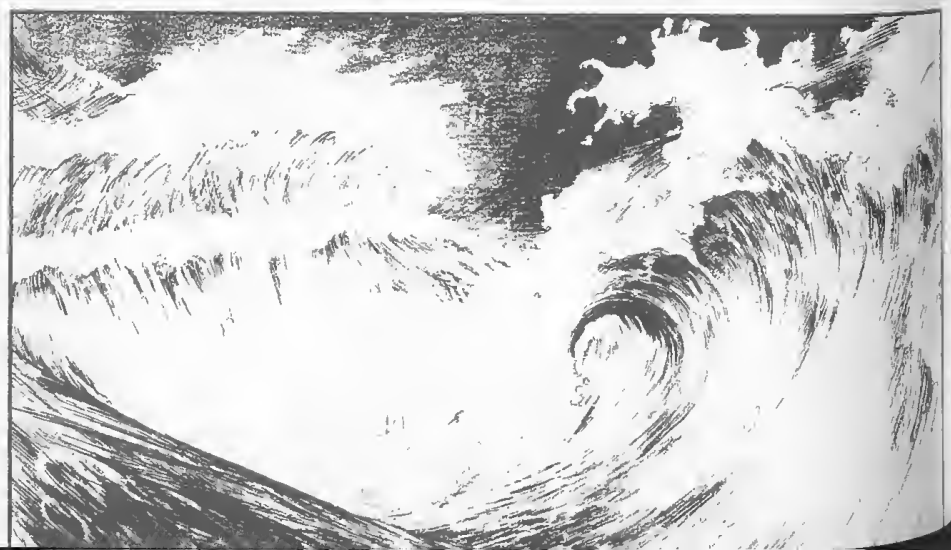
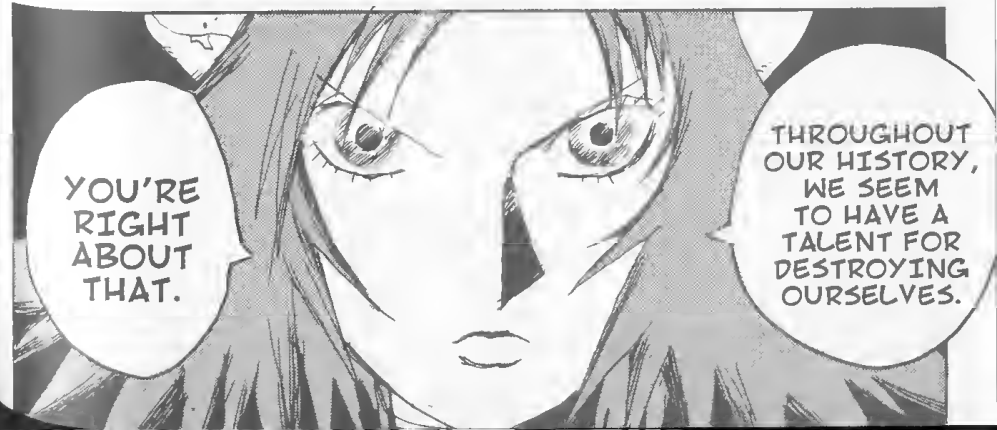
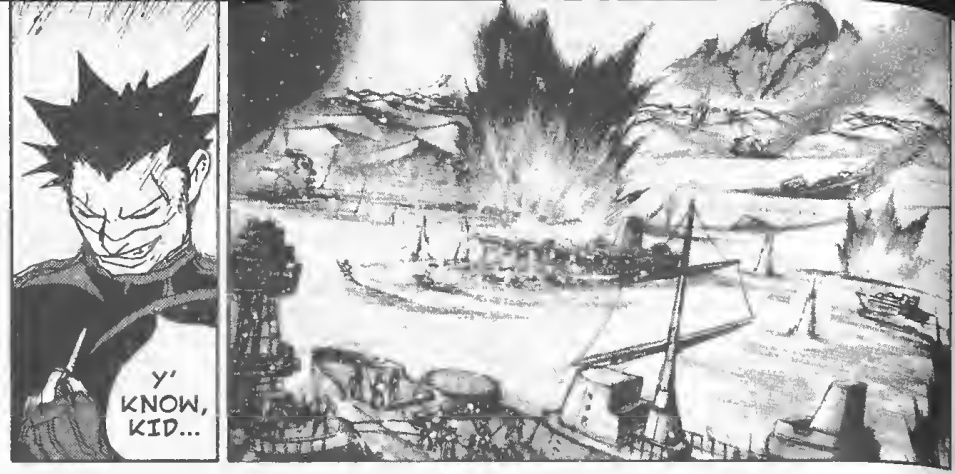

TO LOOK AT THE WORLD AS IT IS, AND DREAM OF WAYS TO MAKE IT BETTER...
BUT THERE ARE OTHER TALES FROM HISTORY. TALES OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO STOOD UP AGAINST OPPRESSION, TO SEEK A BETTER LIFE.



"MEN DESIRE, AND THEY CANNOT OBTAIN, SO THEY FIGHT AND WAR."
THIS IS THE MADNESS I SOUGHT TO KEEP MYSELF FROM... TO KEEP YOU FROM.

IS THIS OUR DESTINY? WILL MAN ALWAYS SEEK HIS OWN DESTRUC-TION?
UNTIL NOW I'VE ALWAYS AVOIDED CONFLICT... AND NOW MY OWN DESIRE FOR RICHES HAS BROUGHT ME TO THE ONE PLACE I NEVER WANTED TO BE.


YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, WE SEEM TO HAVE A TALENT FOR DESTROYING OURSELVES.


Y' KNOW, KID...

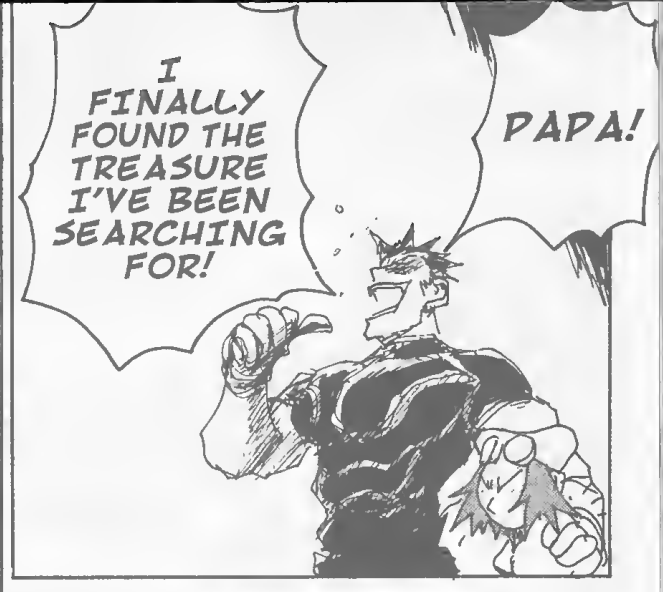
EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF TREASURE I WAS REALLY AFTER, I SEARCHED ANYWAY.
...SINCE I WAS YOUR AGE, I'VE BEEN LIVING ON THE SAKAI IN SEARCH OF TREASURE.

THAT IS... UNTIL TODAY.

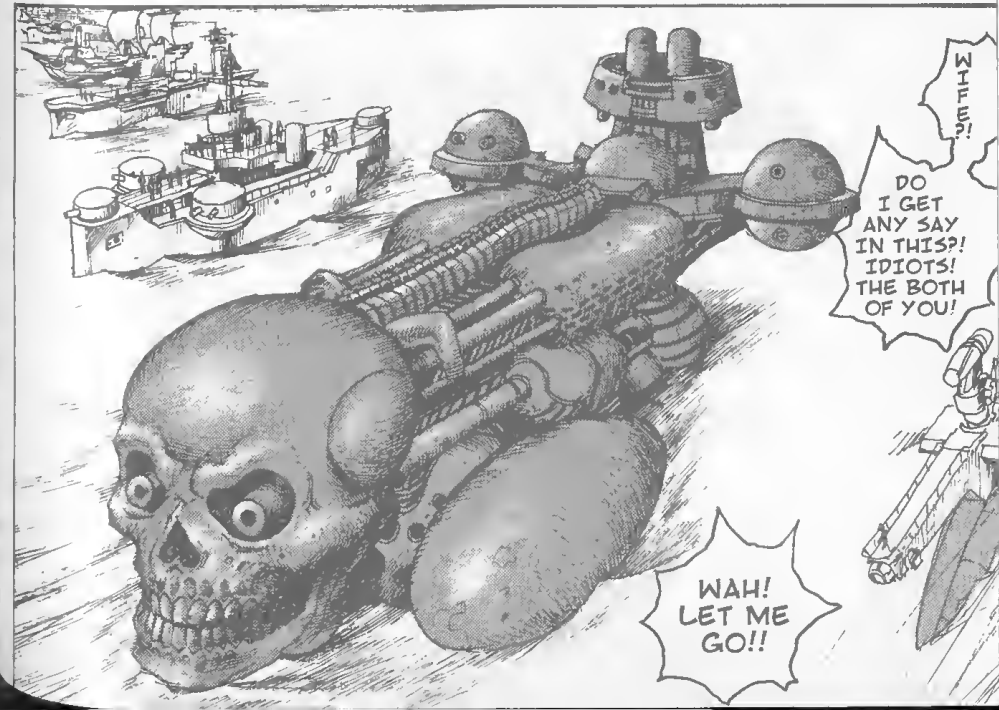
...MAYBE THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN.

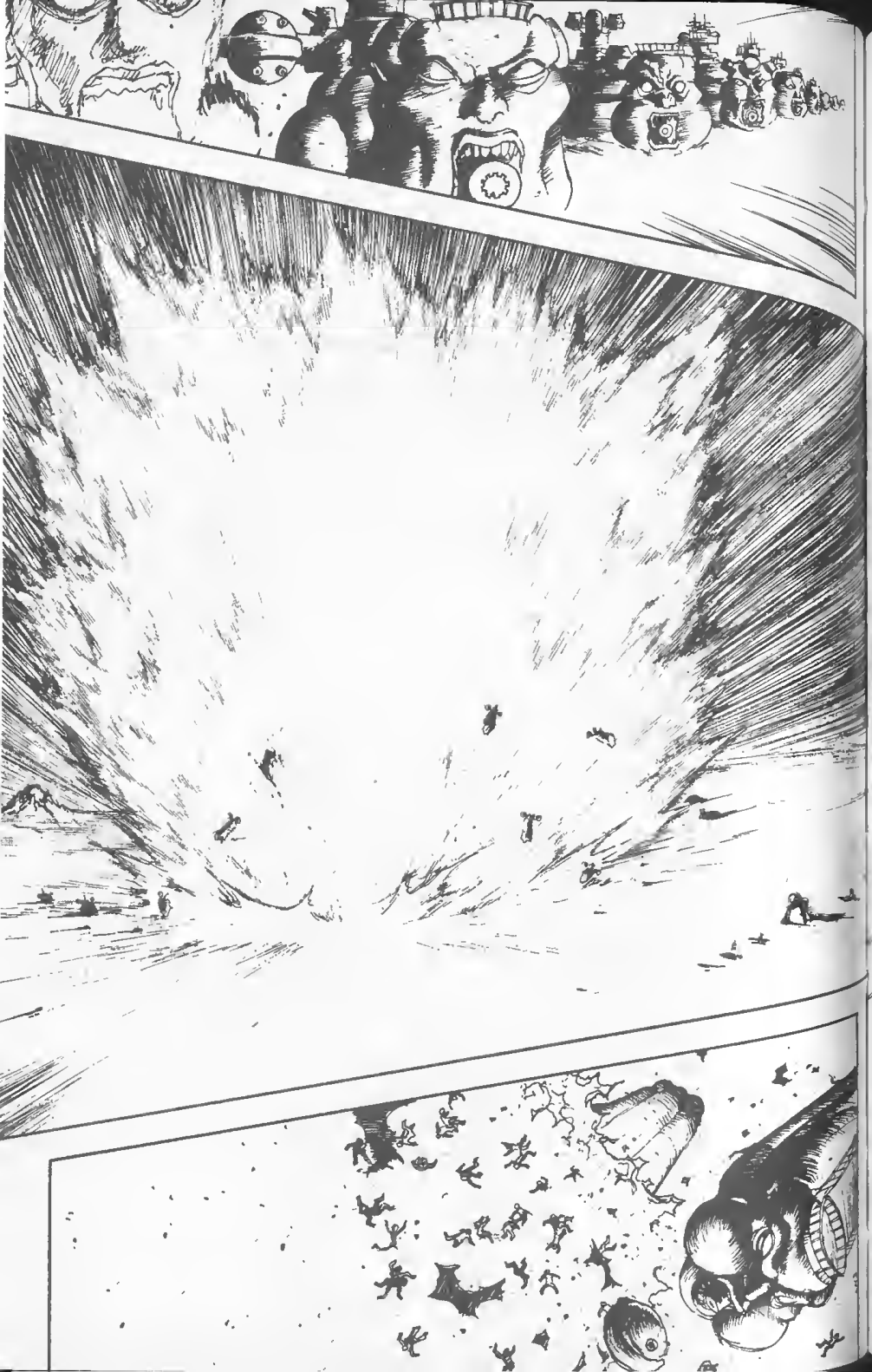
OOOOH...
ON THIS, OUR DAY OF VICTORY ...
LORD, GRANT US YOUR FORGIVE-NESS AND BLESSING!!

ATTABOY! GOOD JOB, SON! A GOOD MAN NEEDS A GOOD WIFE! AND SHE'S AS GOOD AS THEY COME!

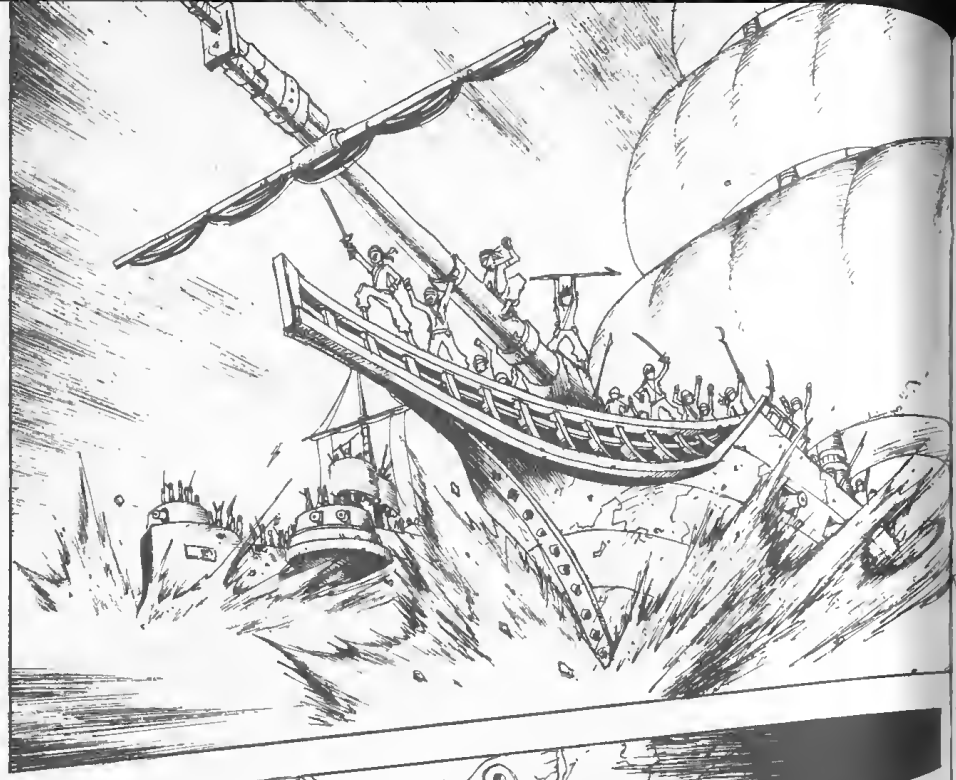

I FINALLY FOUND THE TREASURE I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR!
PAPA!

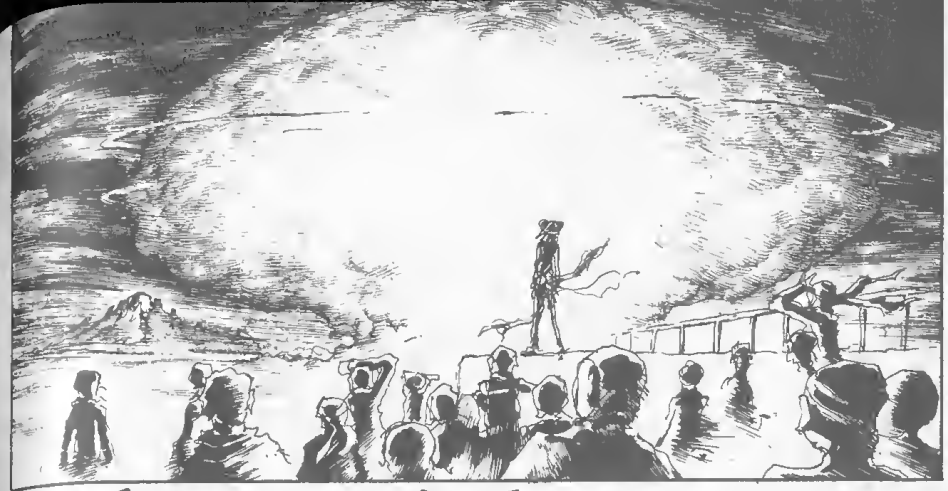
WHAT ?!

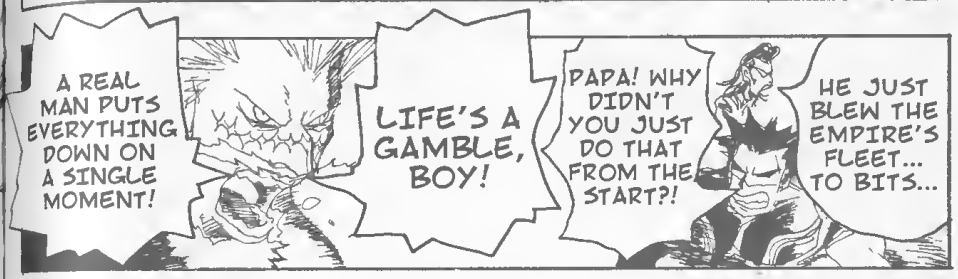

WIFE?!
DO I GET ANY SAY IN THIS?! IDIOTS! THE BOTH OF YOU!
WAH! LET ME GO!!



THIS IS MY DOWRY TO THE BRIDE!
SON!
LET'S GO!
WE'RE WITHIN FIRING RANGE OF THE TARGET!
A TWO-GUN SALUTE!!



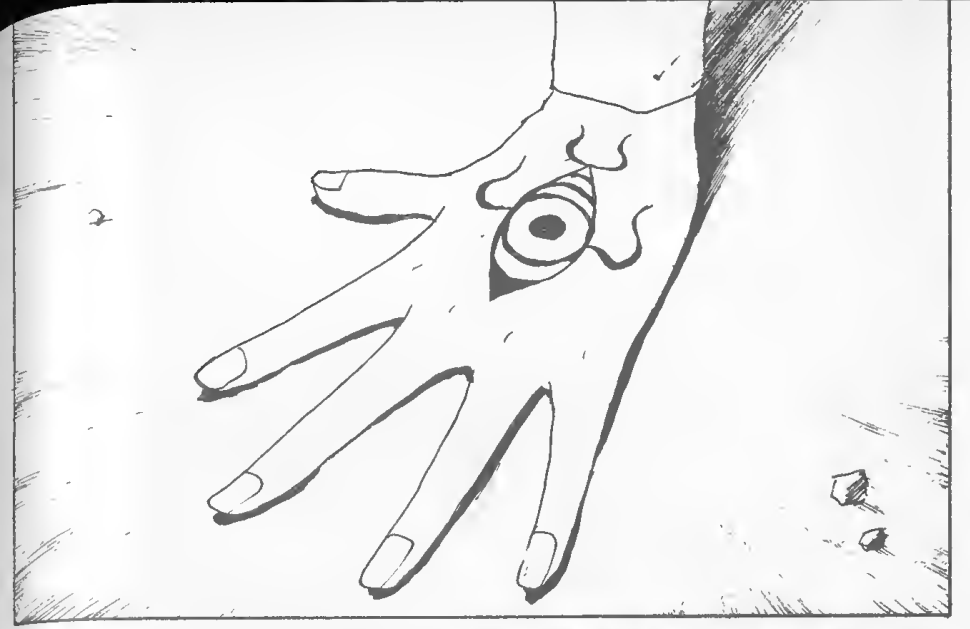


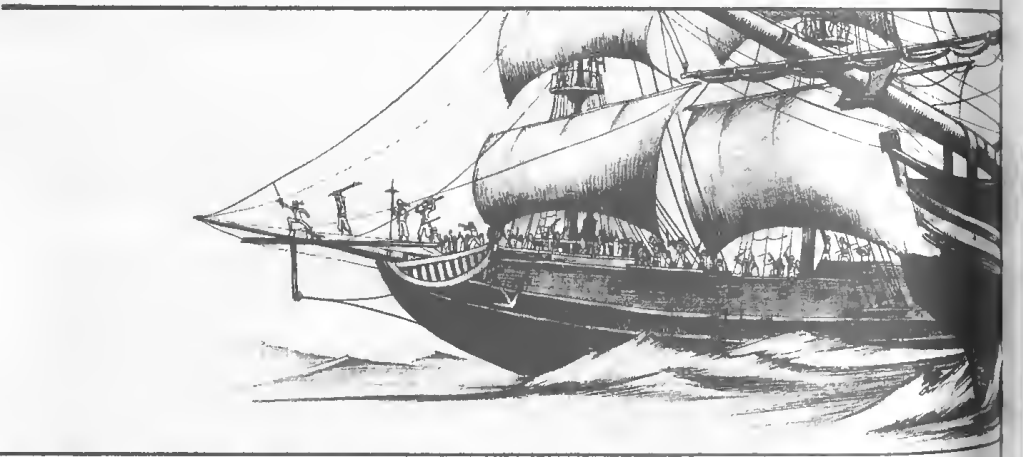

A REAL MAN PUTS EVERYTHING DOWN ON A SINGLE MOMENT!
LIFE'S A GAMBLE, BOY!
PAPA! WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST DO THAT FROM THE START?!
HE JUST BLEW THE EMPIRE'S FLEET... TO BITS...

FOR BANCHO !!

LET'S FINISH IT!

I'VE...
I'VE RETURNED!





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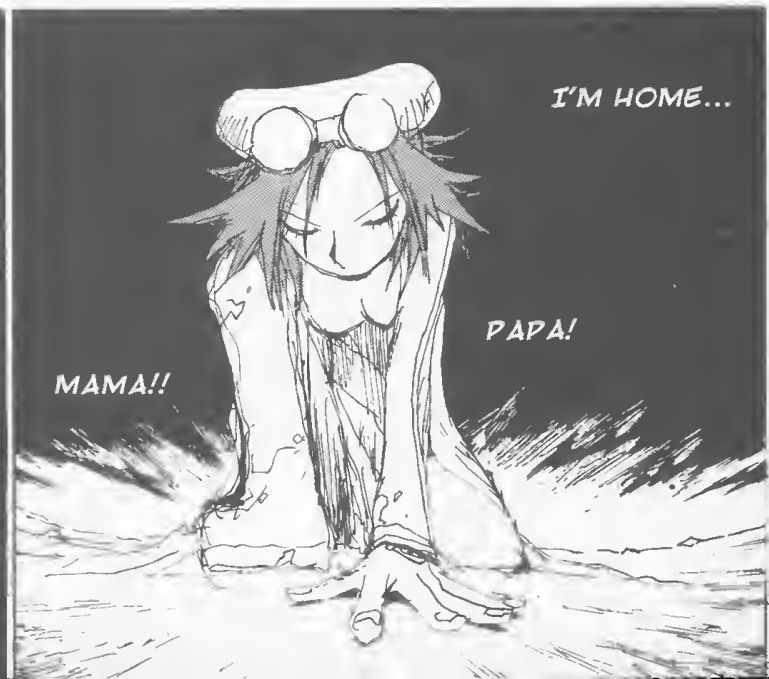
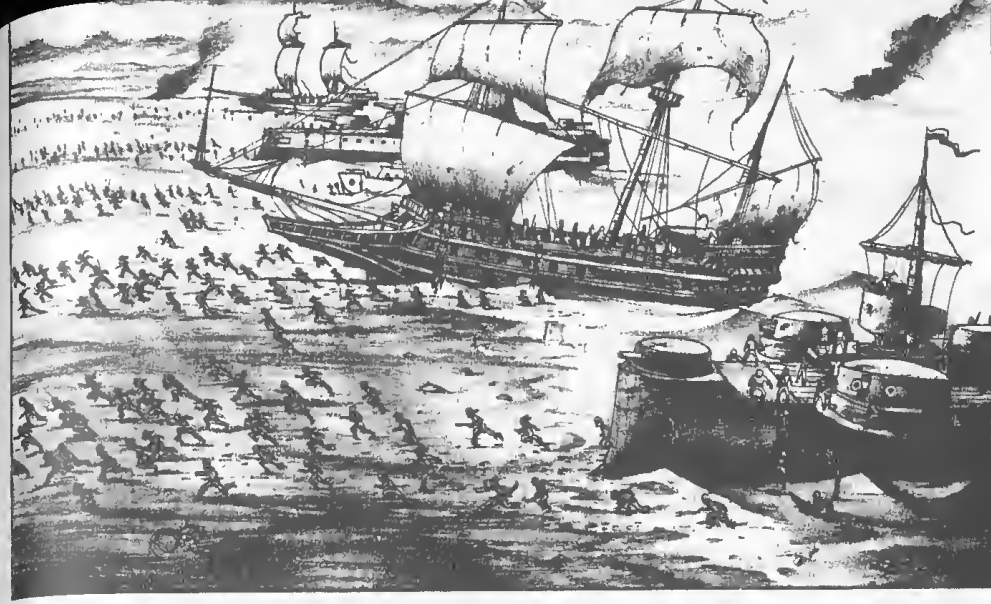

I'M HOME...
PAPA!
MAMA!!

IT HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
THERE IT IS.

70 YEARS HAVE PASSED... AND NOT A SINGLE THING HAS CHANGED.



OH!
PITIFUL.
MY DEAR ROCKMAN...
...THE YEARS HAVE NOT BEEN KIND.

AT LAST...
IS THIS...?
...THE GOLDEN CITY?!
CAN THIS BE...

THAT'S...
...GAO ?!
IT'S YOU...
GAO!
JUST LIKE THE CITY... YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED... IN THE SLIGHTEST.
ROCKMAN...
YOUR BODY HAS AGED, BUT YOUR SPIRIT REMAINS INTACT, I SEE. A VALUABLE THING.
.....

I WOULD EXPECT NO LESS...
...FROM THE FIRST MAN TO CROSS THE BLACK CURRENT.
I EXPECTED NO LESS FROM YOUR WONDERFUL SEED, ROCKMAN.
THEY ARE MAGNIFICENT CHILDREN.
NO WAY. RIGHT, ROCKY?
NO...
ガーン
GAO!
YOU'RE FINISHED!
STOP THIS RIGHT NOW!

WAH!
GET YER DAMN HANDS OFFA ME!
LET GO OF US, DAMMIT !!
"FATHER"?
CALM DOWN, FATHER!
?!?

LET GO OF MY HAND!
ZIZI...
YOU'RE WRONG, GAO! I'M NOTHING LIKE YOU!

YOU HAVE EYES, DON'T YOU? JUST TAKE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF!
IT'S OVER, GAO!
I'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, LITTLE GIRL.
FINISHED?
WHAT?!
YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD UNDER-STAND.
WE'RE OF THE SAME BLOOD, GIRL.

ZIZI !!
WHAT'S SHE...?

AAAH.... AAAAHH!

NO...
AH...

WE'RE OF THE SAME BLOOD...
LET GO OF ME!
ｸﾞｸﾞ

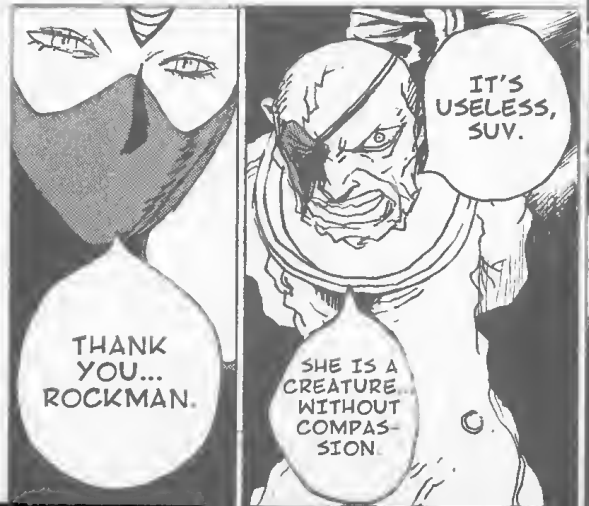
SEARCH YOUR FEELINGS. YOU KNOW IT TO BE TRUE!

STONe
ストーン

EPISODE 10
"PINK RIBBON SCAR"

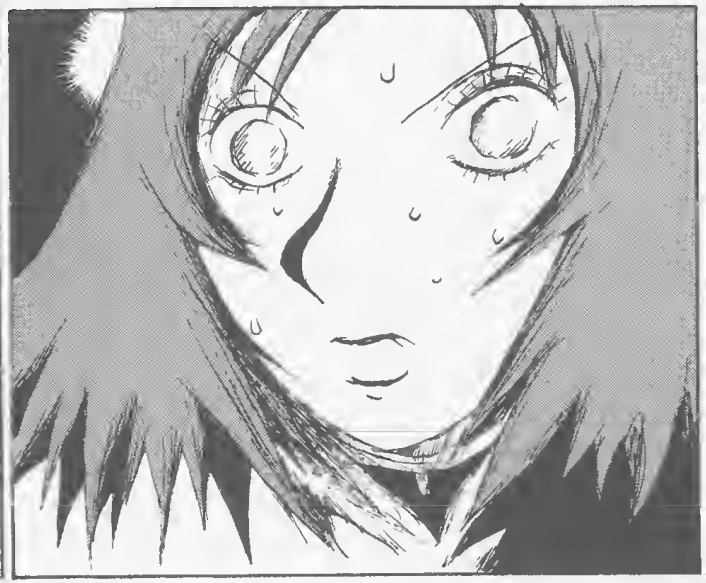
...AND IT'S IN YOU AS WELL, ZIZI!
THE OCEAN THAT DISAPPEARED FROM THE EARTH IS IN HERE...

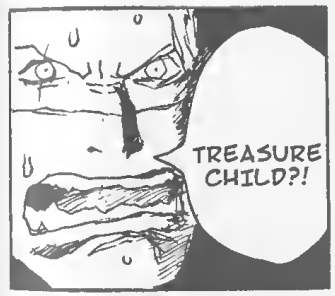
IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU THAT PEOPLE ARE KILLING EACH OTHER JUST OUTSIDE!
SOMEONE WANNA TELL ME WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?


THANK YOU... ROCKMAN.
SHE IS A CREATURE... WITHOUT COMPAS-SION.
IT'S USELESS, SUV.

THANK YOU, ZIZI. YOU CAME BACK ON THE DAY THAT I SHALL GIVE BIRTH TO MY LAST TREASURE CHILD.
IT PLEASES ME.

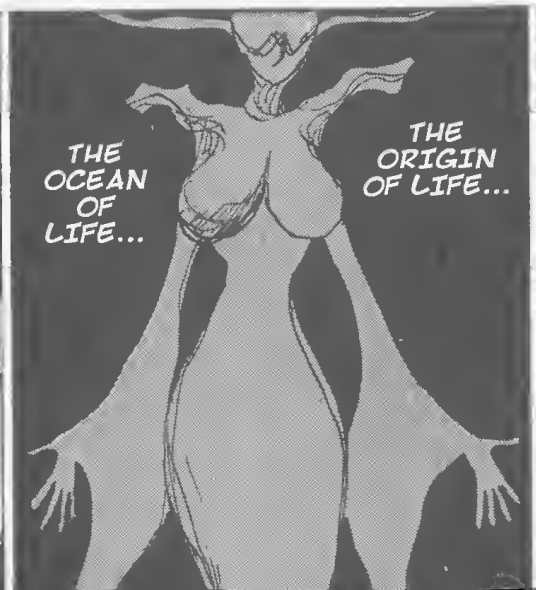
ZIZI!
WHAT HAPPENED? SNAP OUT OF IT!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER, WITCH?!




TREASURE CHILD?!

THERE'S A TREASURE CHILD WITHIN THE OCEAN!
THE OCEAN!

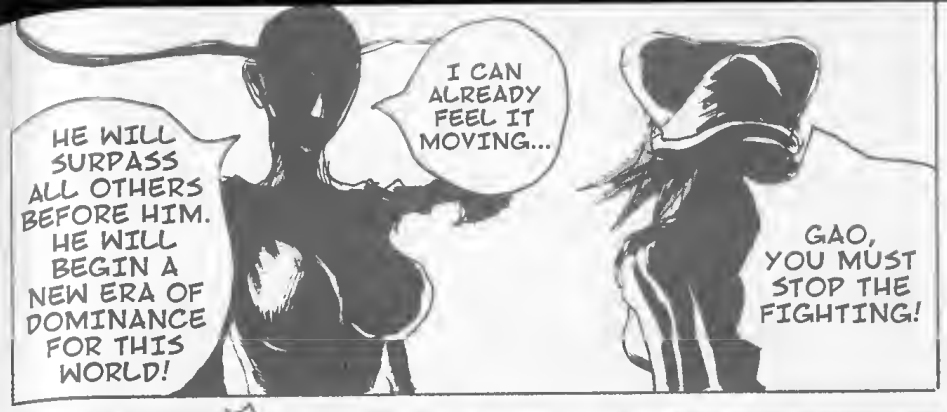
GAO... YOU'RE THE SAME AGE AS ME!


THE OCEAN OF LIFE...
THE ORIGIN OF LIFE...

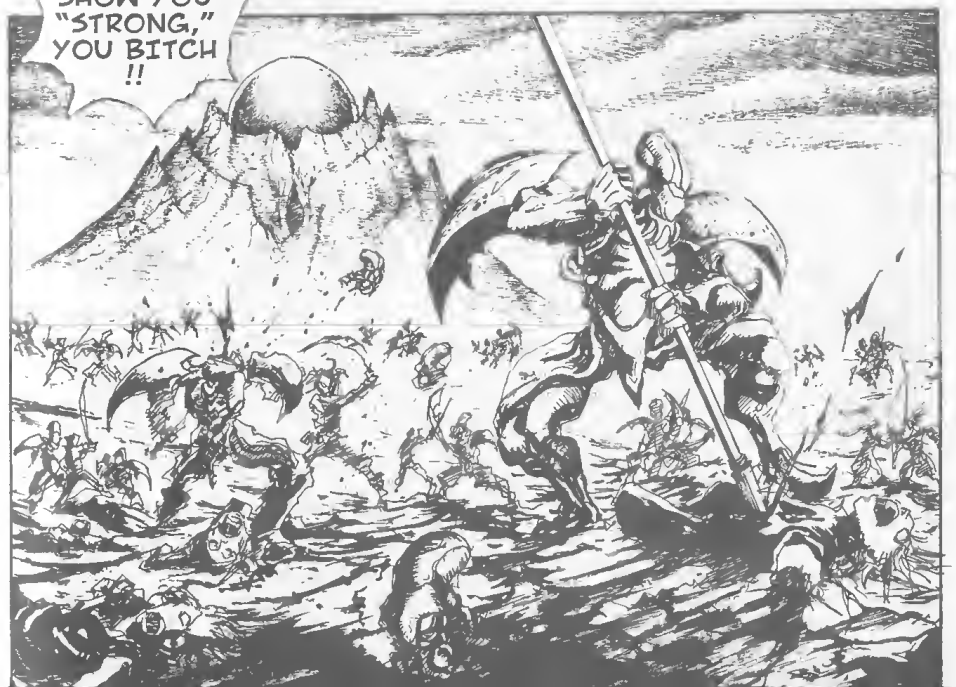
A CHILD...
IMPOS-SIBLE!

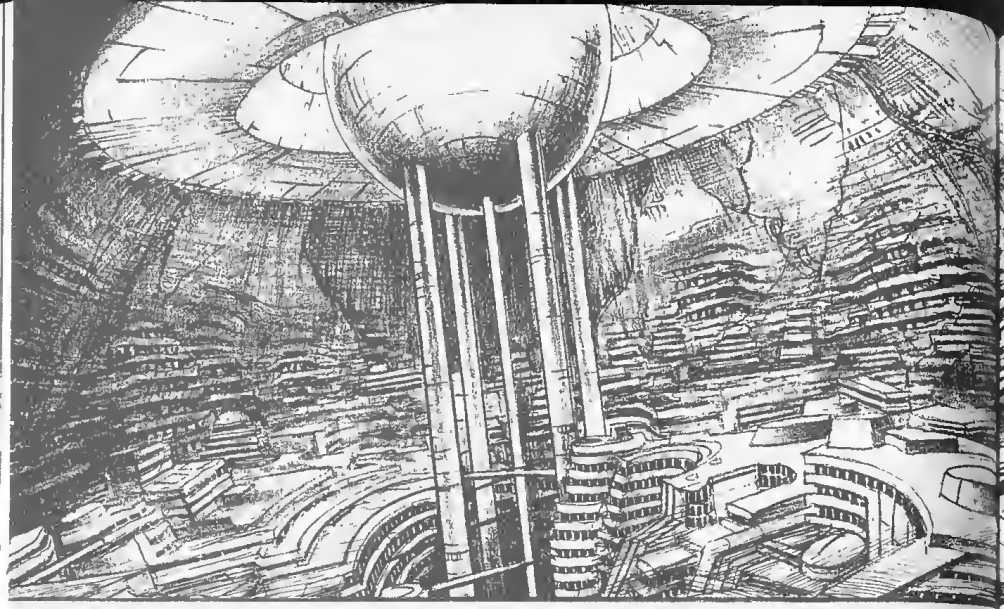
I AM GAO! I GIVE BIRTH TO DOMINANCE!!
ZIZI! YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THIS! YOU AND I CARRY THE SAME BLOOD!

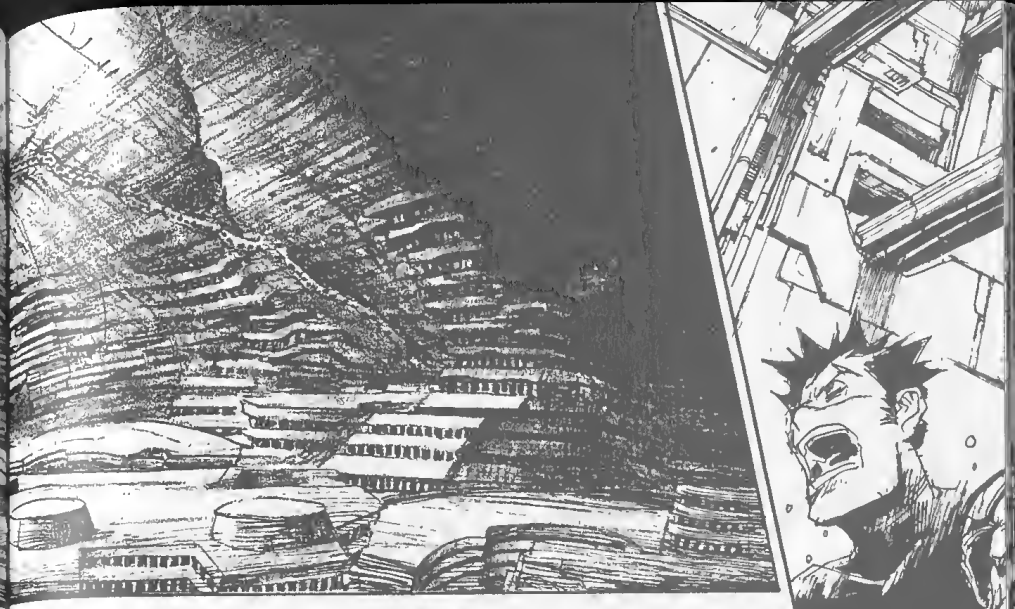
THEN I SHALL MAKE YOU SEE.
THAT, I WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND!
YOU ONLY GIVE BIRTH TO DESTRUCTION!

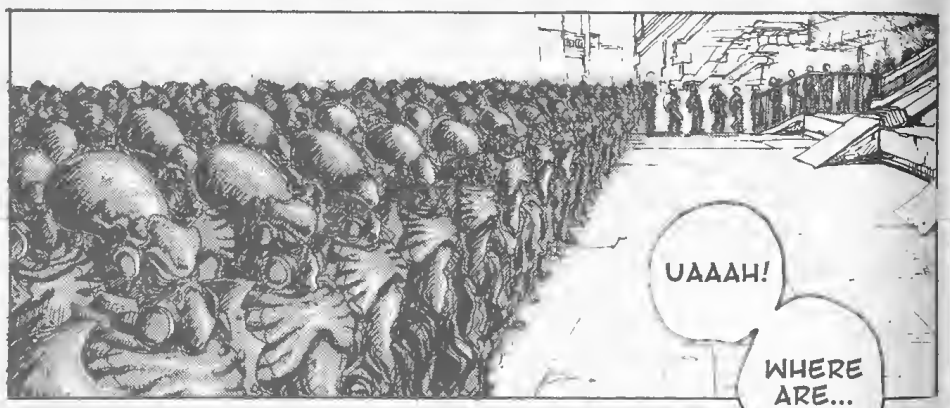

HE WILL SURPASS ALL OTHERS BEFORE HIM. HE WILL BEGIN A NEW ERA OF DOMINANCE FOR THIS WORLD!
I CAN ALREADY FEEL IT MOVING...
GAO, YOU MUST STOP THE FIGHTING!

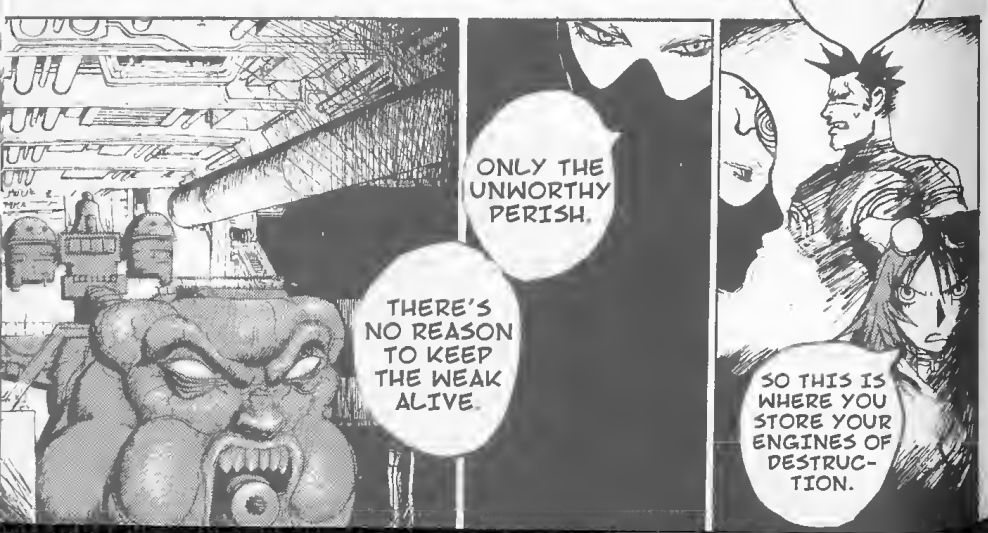
MON-STER!
CUT ME LOOSE AND I'LL SHOW YOU "STRONG," YOU BITCH !!
THE WEAK ARE EXPEND-ABLE
AND WHAT OF THE OTHERS IN THIS WORLD?

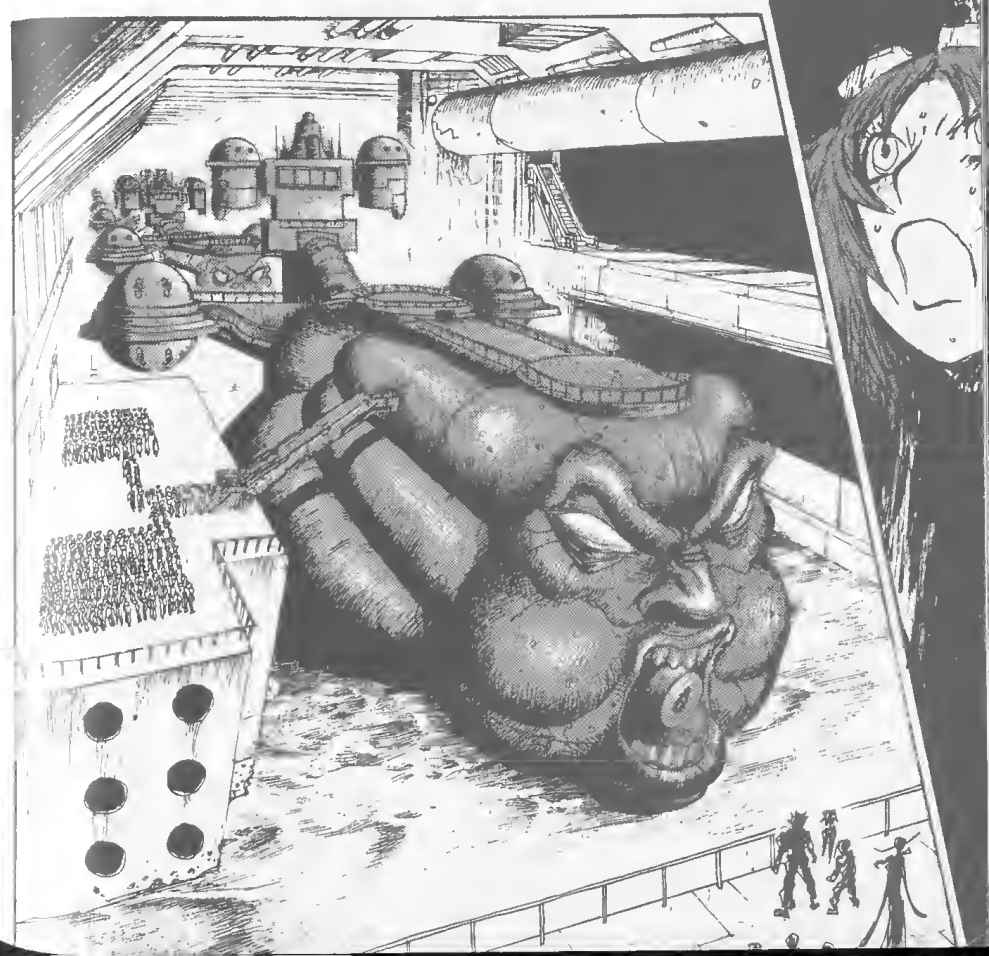







UAAAH!
WHERE ARE...

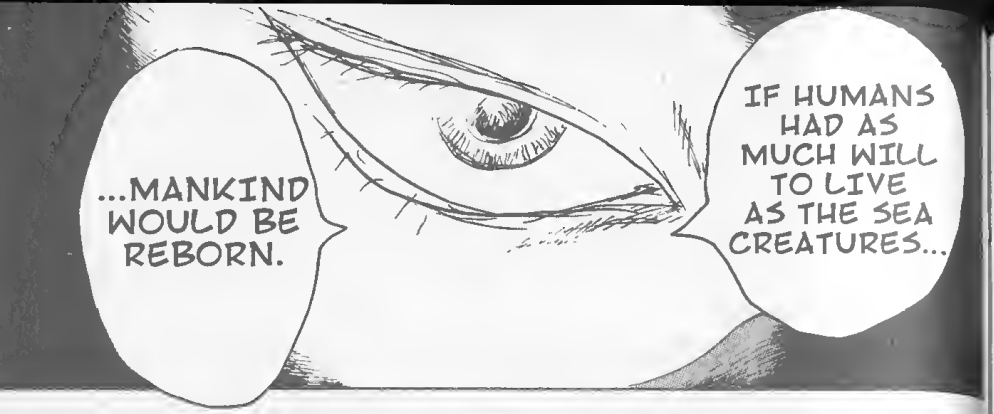

ONLY THE UNWORTHY PERISH.
THERE'S NO REASON TO KEEP THE WEAK ALIVE.
SO THIS IS WHERE YOU STORE YOUR ENGINES OF DESTRUC-TION.



WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO DECIDE THE FUTURE?!

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST, MY DEAR ZIZI.
YOU ARE OBSCENE!
IF HUMANITY IS TO SURVIVE, IT MUST BE GUIDED BY A POWERFUL HAND.
WHAT I DO, I DO FOR THE SAKE OF HUMANITY'S FUTURE.
OBSCENE? PERHAPS. BUT HUMANITY STANDS ON THE BRINK OF EXTINC-TION.

ZIZI !
LORD OF THE SAKAI...
...I'M PRAYING TO YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME!
PLEASE PROTECT ZIZI AND NENE!!
PLEASE!


...MANKIND WOULD BE REBORN.
IF HUMANS HAD AS MUCH WILL TO LIVE AS THE SEA CREATURES...

MANKIND MUST EVOLVE!!

IF YOU REJECT THAT...

...WAITING FOR EXTINCTION.
MANKIND LACKS THE WILL TO LIVE. THEY MEANDER AIMLESSLY ABOUT...
THIS DRIED-UP EARTH... A PLANET ON THE VERGE OF DYING.

THEY ARE A LIFE FORCE WHOSE WILL WAS GIVEN FORM.
THIS PLANET NOW BELONGS TO THE SEA WHALES, LEVIATHANS AND MONSTERS.

...THEN THERE IS NO FUTURE FOR MANKIND.

THE GENES EXCLUDED HUMANITY'S EVERY FLAW!!

FREE OF SICKNESS, DECEPTION, HATRED...

THEY CREATED A PERFECT SET OF GENES.

THAT'S WHY THE EMPIRE WAS CREATED. TO GIVE THE EARTH BACK TO THE HUMANS ONCE MORE.

I INHERITED THE WILL OF THE ANCIENTS...

...WERE ALSO PRODUCTS OF MY WOMB!

YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER...

...AND HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO MANY SUPERIOR CHILDREN.

ONCE, HUMANS FLOURISHED.

BUT WHEN THE POPULATION OF EARTH GOT OUT OF HAND, THEY TOOK TO SPACE.

WHEN THE ICE AGE CAME, JUPITER WAS CHANGED INTO THE SUN.

MAN'S DESCENDANTS DID THEIR BEST TO SURVIVE...

THAT IS, UNTIL OUR MOTHER, THE OCEAN, WAS TAKEN AWAY FROM US.

...MADE ONE FINAL GAMBLE.

THOSE WHO PREDICTED THE END OF HUMANITY...

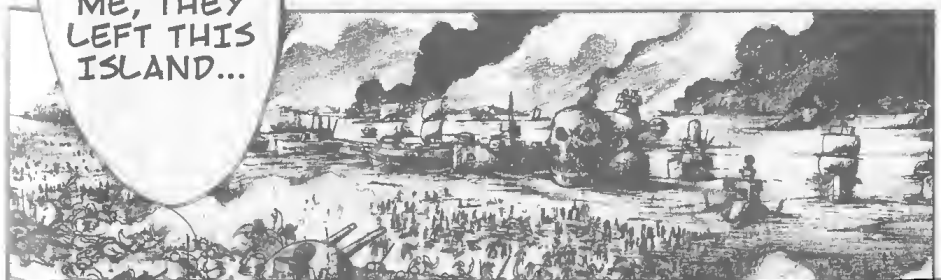
AND NOW YOU'VE COME HOME!!
...AND YOU WERE BORN...
...ZIZI!!

YOUR PERFECT EMPIRE IS NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY THAT CAME BEFORE IT!
YOU SAY YOUR GENES HAVE NO HUMAN FLAWS? LOOK AROUND, GAO! YOU BRING OPPRESSION, MISERY AND DEATH TO HUMANITY!

YOU STILL DO NOT UNDER-STAND, DO YOU?! YOU CANNOT DENY YOUR FATE!!

AND YOU SHALL BE THE SUCCESSOR TO MY WILL!!

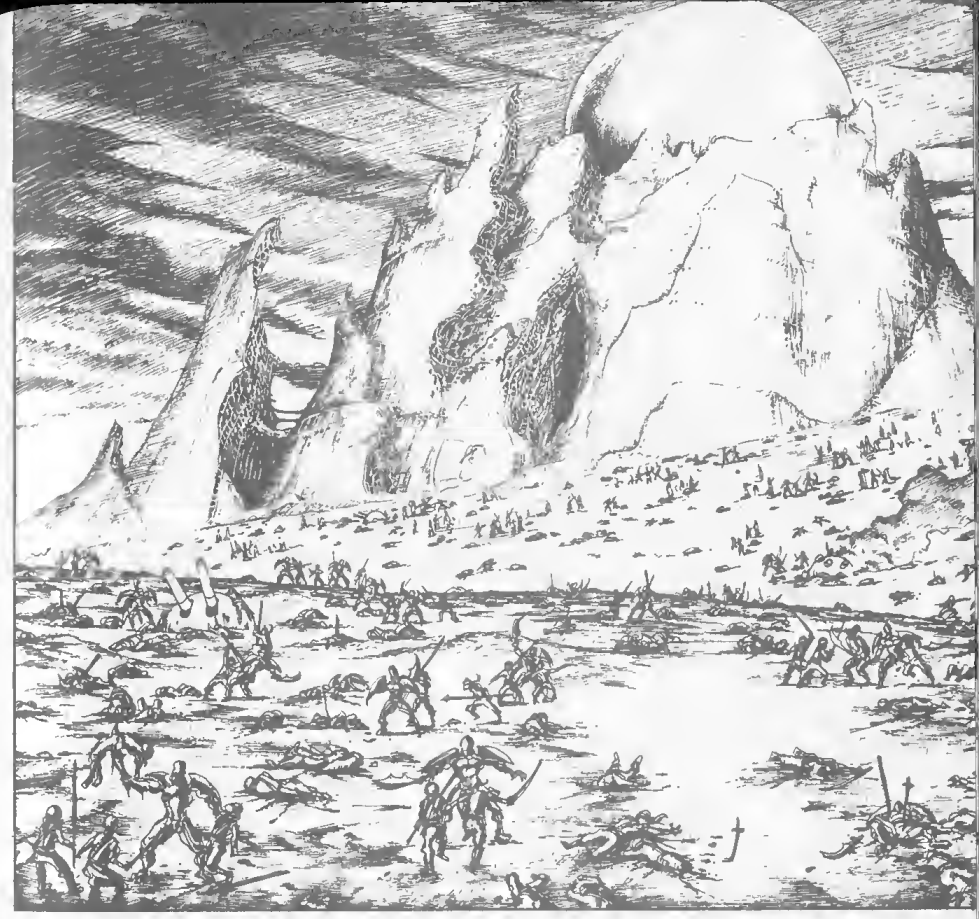
HEH...
NEVER.
THAT TATTOO IS PROOF ENOUGH!
YOU'RE LYING...

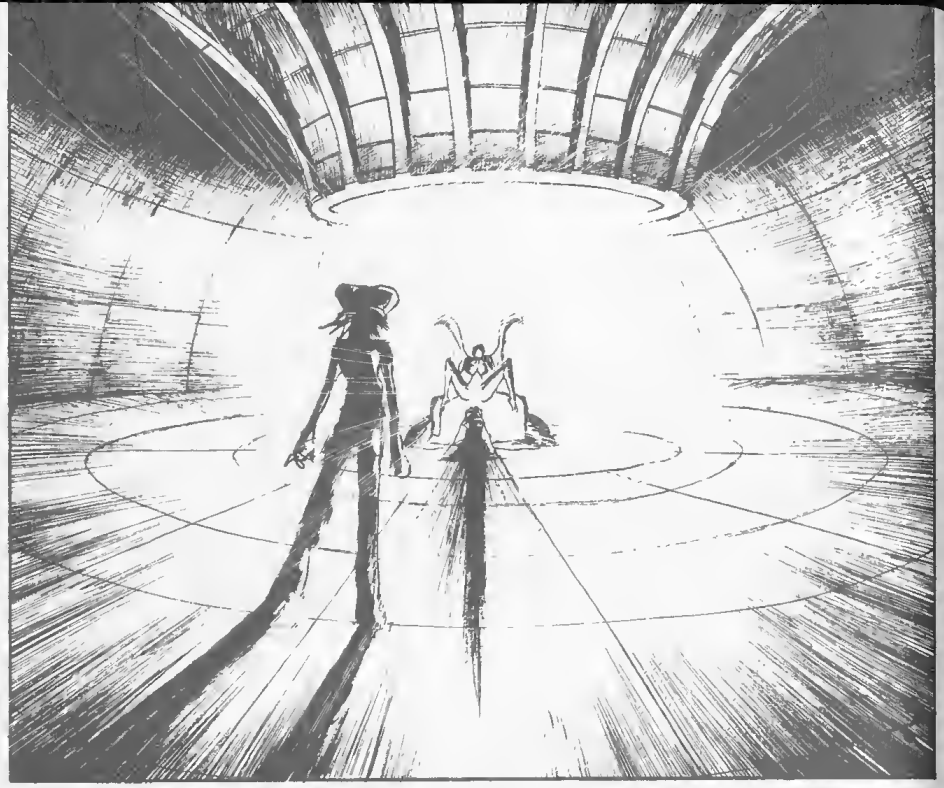

WHEN YOUR PARENTS DISOBEYED ME, THEY LEFT THIS ISLAND...

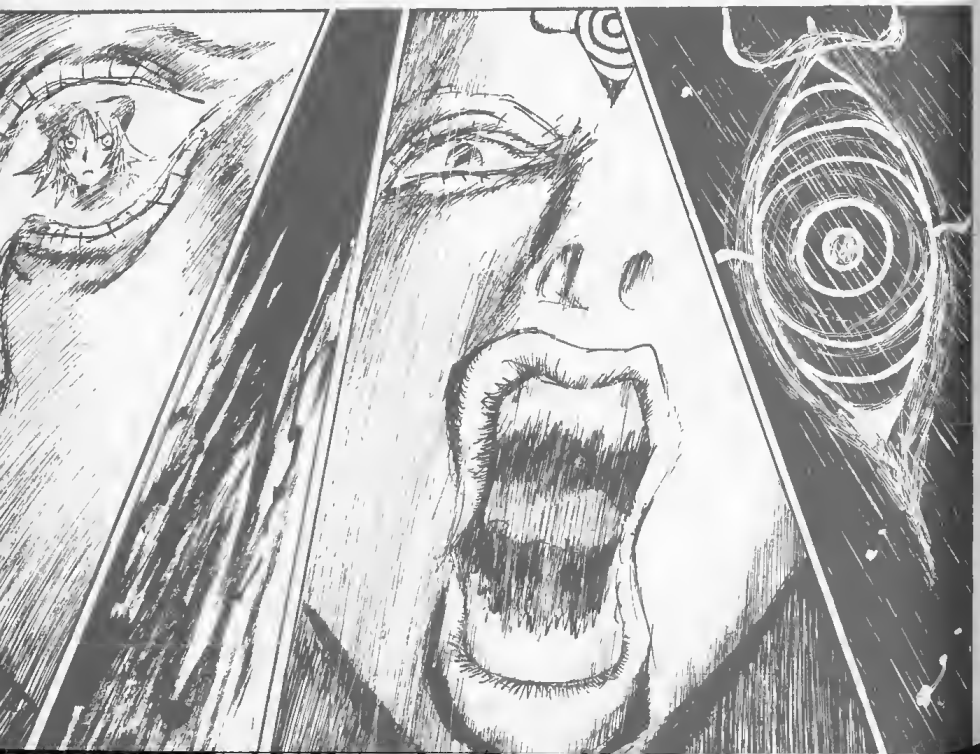
THE BIRTHING HAS BEGUN!

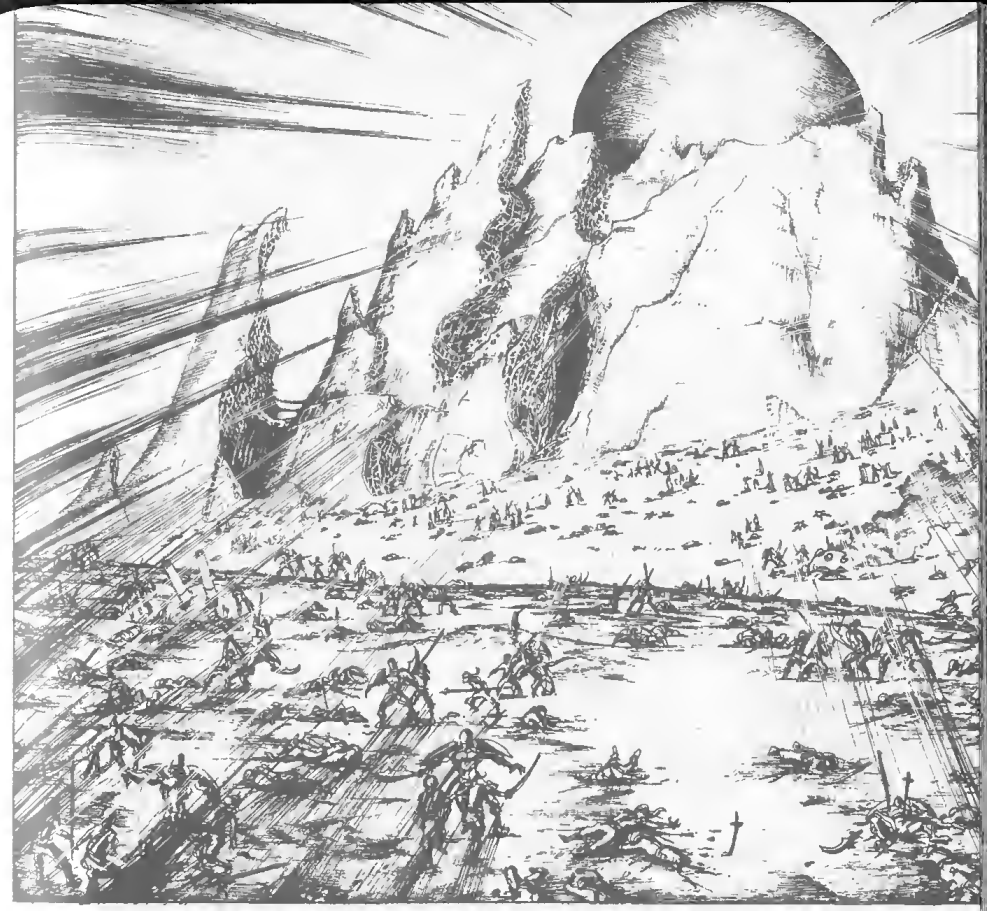
HUMANITY'S...
AAAAHH!!!
AH!
MOTHER!!
.....
WATCH HER!!
QUEEN GAO!!
AAAH!!

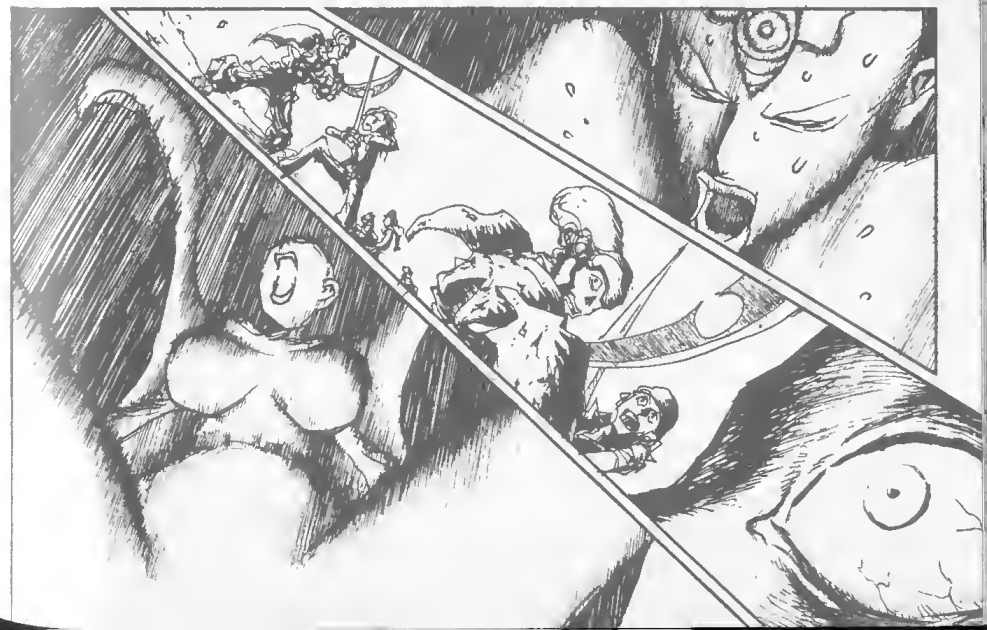
FOR SAN-CHO!
DIE, IMPERIAL DOGS!
PIRATE SCUM!

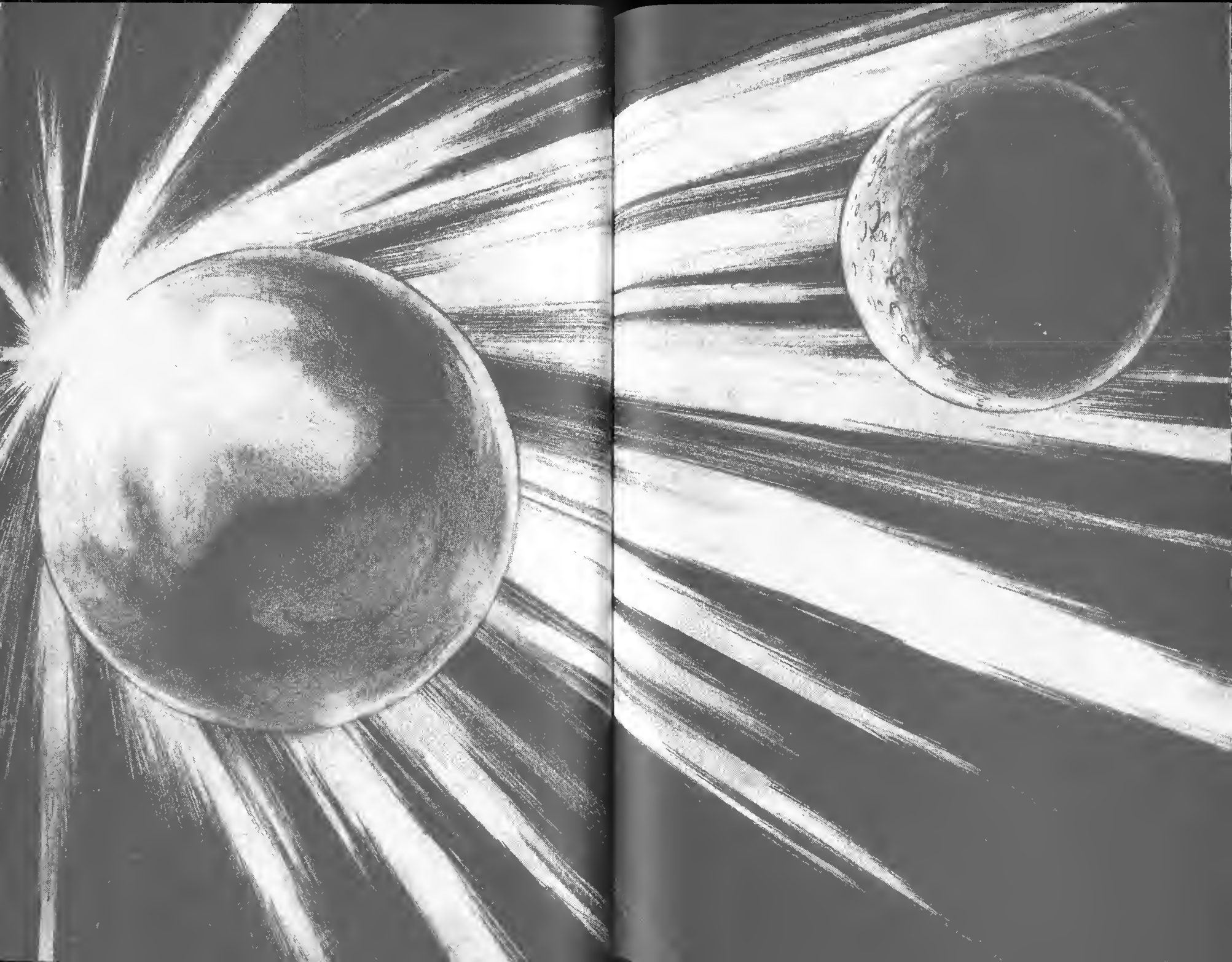


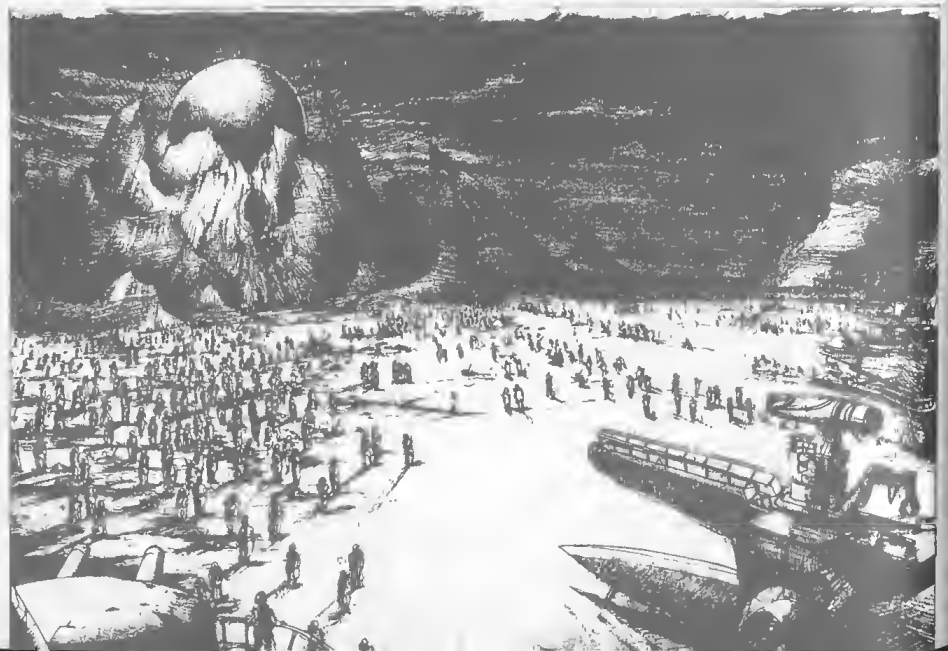


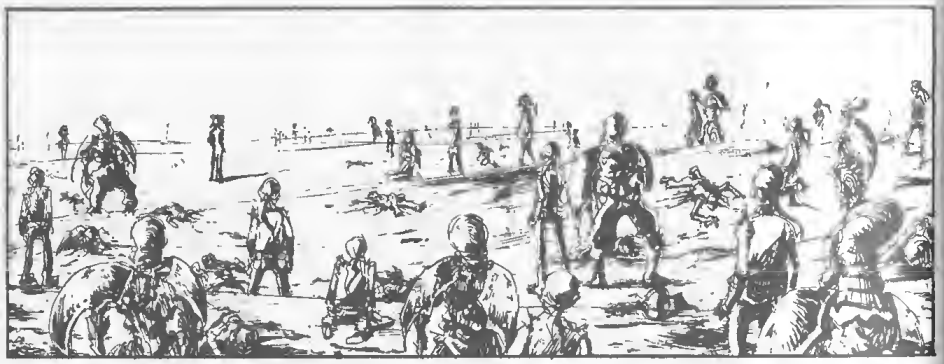


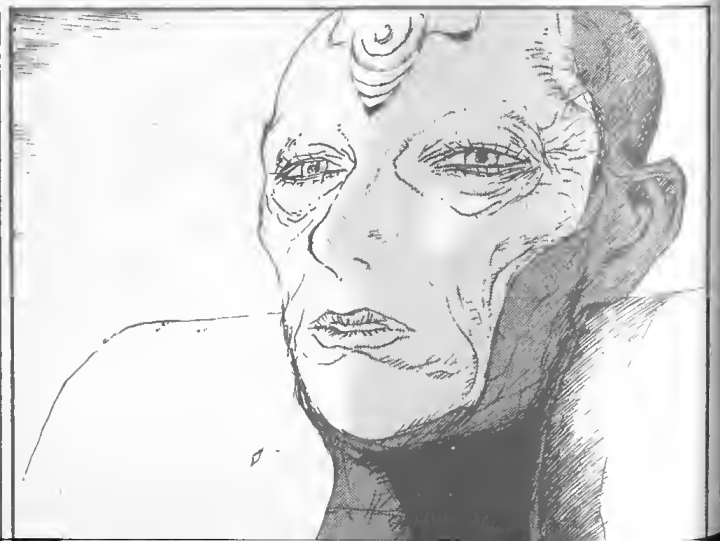






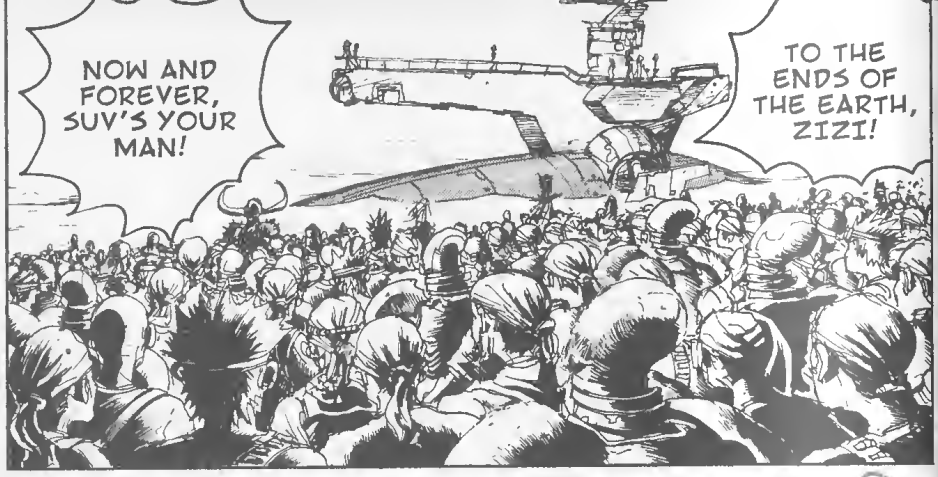




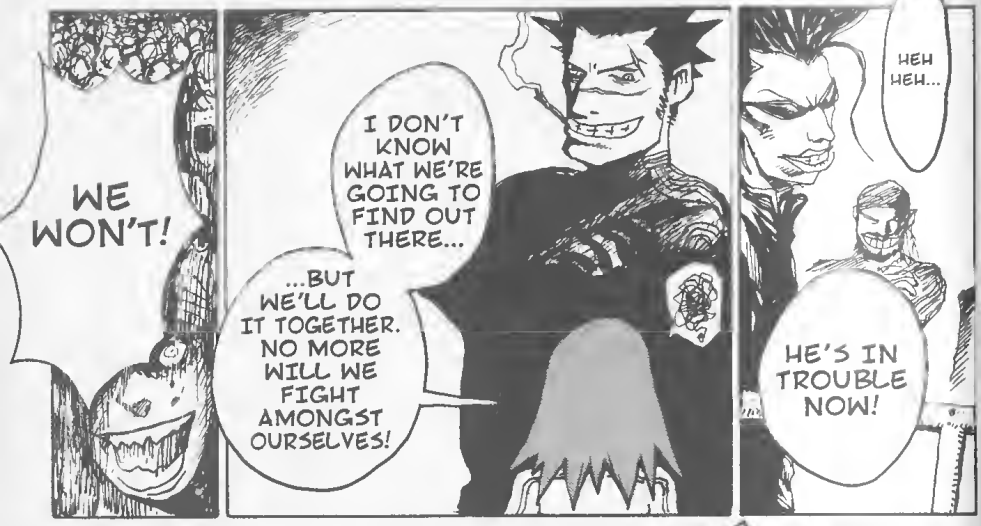


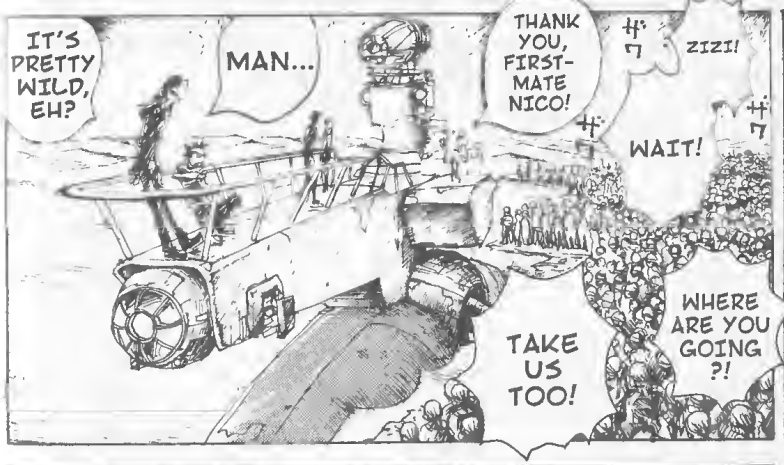
THIS IS WHERE I WAS BORN.
THIS IS WHERE I WAS RAISED!

MOST PEOPLE HATE THE SAKAI, BUT...
...I LOVE THIS SEA.

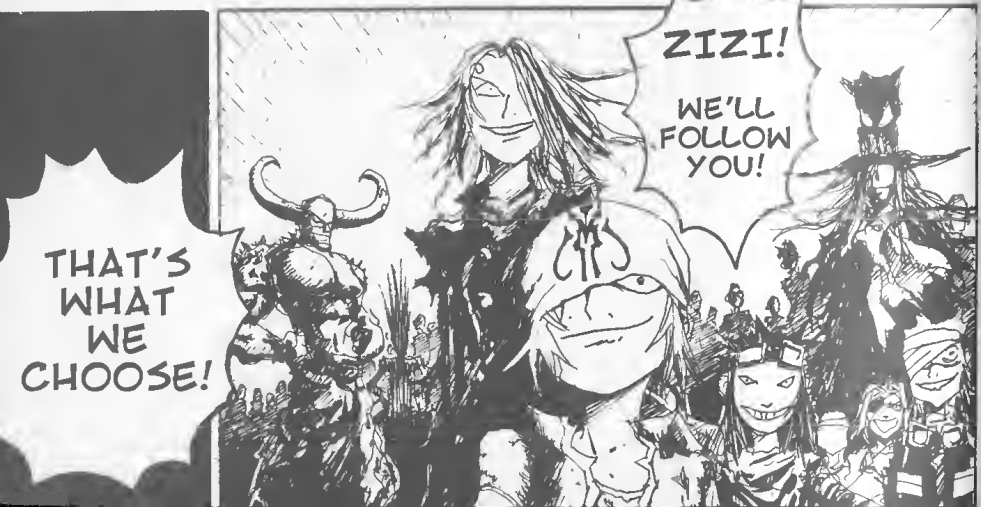

NOW AND FOREVER, SUV'S YOUR MAN!
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH, ZIZI!

I WILL MAKE MY FATE HERE!!


WE WON'T!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT THERE...
...BUT WE'LL DO IT TOGETHER. NO MORE WILL WE FIGHT AMONGST OURSELVES!
HEH HEH...
HE'S IN TROUBLE NOW!


IT'S PRETTY WILD, EH?
MAN...
THANK YOU, FIRST-MATE NICO!
ZIZI!
WAIT!
TAKE US TOO!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING ?!

READY TO DEPART ON YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN ZIZI!


THAT'S WHAT WE CHOOSE!
ZIZI!
WE'LL FOLLOW YOU!

A NEW DESTINY AWAITS US! ARE YOU WITH ME?
OUR FATE IS WHAT WE MAKE OF IT!!

STONe

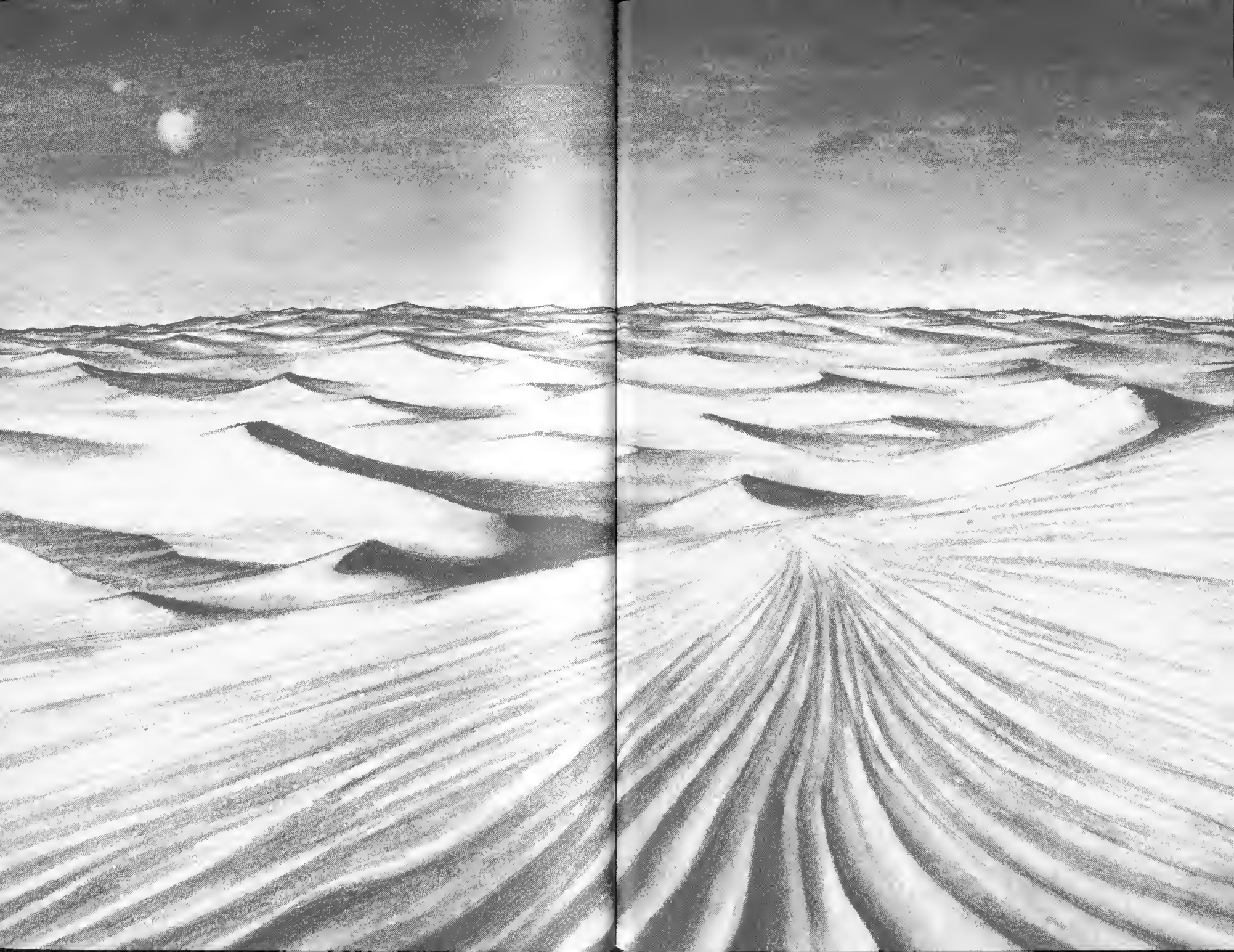
HIROMOTO-SIN-ICHI

End 2

STONe

Episode 10 End

PINK RIBBON SCAR



Diabolo™

WHEN THERE'S HELL TO PAY...

THE PRICE MAY BE YOUR SOUL.

OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

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Threads of Time™

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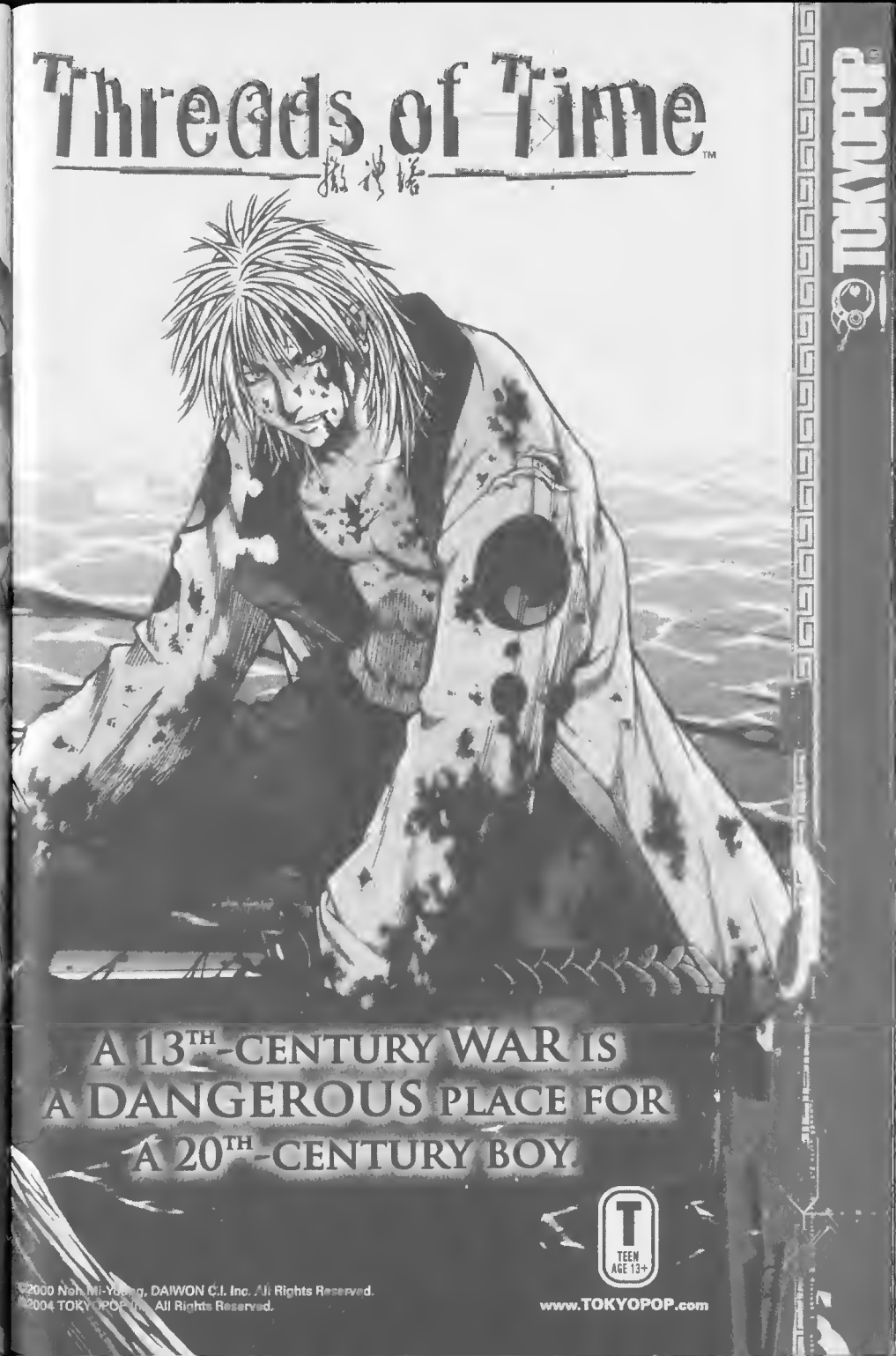

A 13TH-CENTURY WAR IS A DANGEROUS PLACE FOR A 20TH-CENTURY BOY.

T
TEEN
AGE 13+

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AGE 15+

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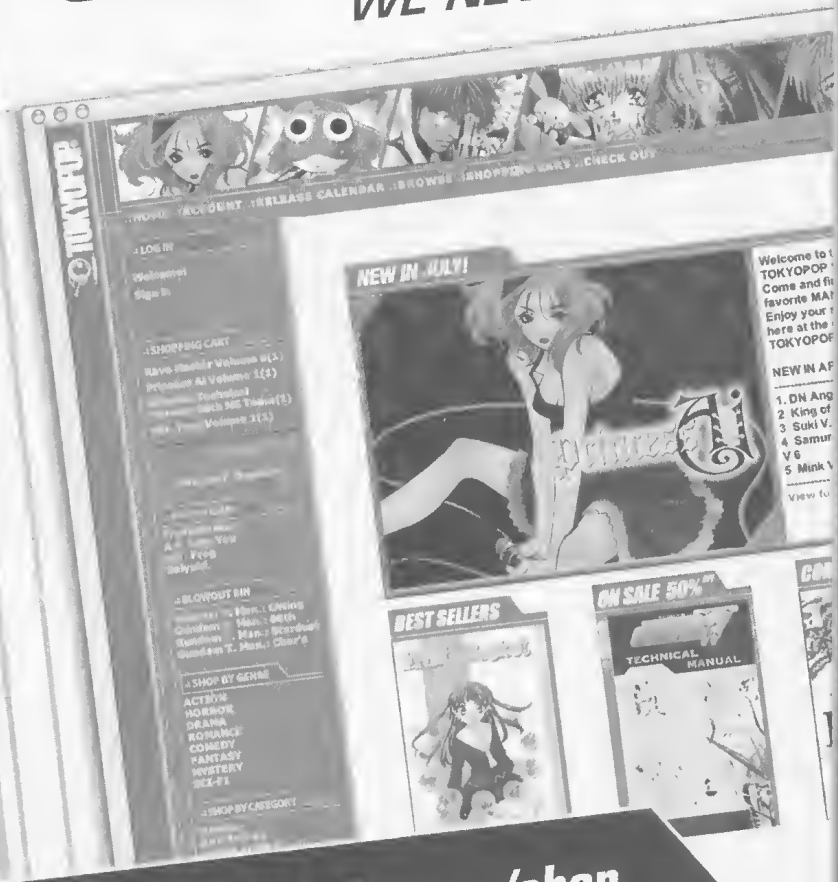

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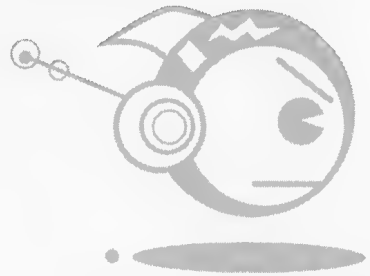

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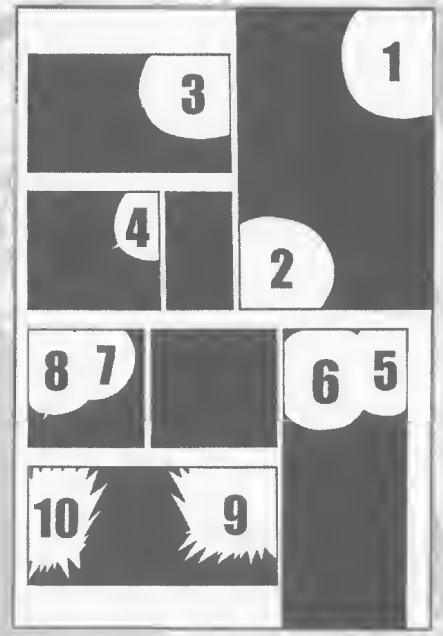
STOP!

This is the back of the book. You wouldn't want to spoil a great ending!

This book is printed "manga-style," in the authentic Japanese right-to-left format. Since none of the artwork has been flipped or altered, readers get to experience the story just as the creator intended. You've been asking for it, so TOKYOPOP® delivered: authentic, hot-off-the-press, and far more fun!



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If this is your first time reading manga-style, here's a quick guide to help you understand how it works.

It's easy... just start in the top right panel and follow the numbers. Have fun, and look for more 100% authentic manga from TOKYOPOP®!